SANDWELL
CHRONICLE

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Making plans

Nigel ready for big time as Crufts judge

See Page 9

Poppy power

Close-knit crafters in performance boost

See Page 16

Baggies slip

Albion drawn out for familiar home result

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HOUSING CRISIS IS NOW CRITICAL

A SANDWELL finance chief has said a housing crisis in the borough has hit a critical point, highlighting the crucial need for smaller homes.

Councillor Steve Eling said: "It is critical for us to build more two-bedroom homes for council tenants." That was his verdict on plans to use receipts from the sale of council homes to build replacements.

Report by Alex Homer

The authority is proposing to use money from the sale of council homes to cover the costs of new social housing in a bid to reduce the waiting list for council homes.

Sandwell, which must save £120 million by 2016, proposes to spent £188 million on new council homes over the next decade. It is in a bid to reduce the 7,191 people on the waiting list with Sandwell Housing.

Since the Government has relaxed rules on how much Right to Buy money councils can keep, Sandwell plans to take full advantage and cover up to its 30 per cent of its new build programme with Right to Buy receipts.

Quarter

New rules from Whitehall mean the cash-strapped authority can retain and use £880,000 to put into new stock, from sales of council homes in the final quarter of last year.

Councillor Steve Eling, the authority's deputy leader and finance chief, will be asked to approve the use of Right to Buy money at a meeting taking place today.

He said: "We're planning to use these receipts to contribute to new housing.

"We need to take advantage of the slight relaxation in Right to Buy rules. We need to do the best deal we can out of it. This about taking a decision which gives us the biggest bang for our buck. It will give us a better chance of meeting the demand for council homes and building the type of accommodation needed as well.

"As the bedroom tax has hit, it's critical for us and other authorities up and down the country to build two-bedroom homes."

This move comes after the sales of council homes to tenants more than doubled across the West Midlands at the end of last year, after Government said tenants could get a discount of up to £75,000 – a £25,000 increase.

Ministers then said it was a sign of growth in the housing market and it was a way of funding the costs of building new homes. Council bosses however said it was putting more pressure on waiting lists as homes were being sold before replacements could be built.

Dudley Council said it would built 100 new properties between now and March 2018 in a bid to reduce its 4,500-strong waiting list. Councillor Steve Waltho, Dudley's housing chief, said it depended on attracting grant funding and Right to Buy receipts to fund that as sales of council homes at discounted rates could not cover the costs of building new homes alone.

Probe as patient's data on Facebook

SENSITIVE details of someone with mental health problems have been captured in a photograph posted on social media website Facebook, sparking an investigation.

An individual's private information, which was spelt out on a letter sent out by Sandwell Council to an external organisation, was posted in a photograph on the website. A sticky note appears to give a woman's full first name, and a message underneath, and the letter that follows in the pile gives a Tipton address, and the fact that a council support worker has begun working with a lady with mental health issues.

The publication of the material led the authority to raise concerns with the external organisation. A member of the public who saw the post had originally reported it to the council's information management unit – the area of the council which oversees data protection among employees.

David Stevens, Sandwell Council's director of adult social care, said: "I can confirm that the photograph was not posted on Facebook by a council employee. Our inquiries have also confirmed the photograph was not taken on council premises. The photograph has been removed from Facebook."

Bets are off on Pepe Mel

TWO leading bookmakers suspended betting on West Bromwich Albion manager Pepe Mel being the next Premier League manager to be sacked. Coral and Betfair stopped taking bets on Mel's position following news of concerns among senior players as exclusively revealed in the Express & Star exploded into the public domain.

Spaniard Mel was still in charge at the time of going to press, and it is believed that his job is not under immediate threat.

● Talks – See Back Page

Shaun putts it there for one in a million

Shaun Messer, right, with fellow Dudley Swiller Craig Biddulph, celebrating the hole in one

A FIREMAN wowed his fellow golfers after hitting a wonder 157-yard hole in one with his putter – but the shot didn't count to his final score.

Shaun Messer, who serves as a fire safety officer in Birmingham, was on an annual golfing trip abroad in Thailand with the Dudley Swillers when he managed the amazing shot, on the par three 17th hole of the Red Mountain course in Phuket.

But even though he was being cheered by all of those around him, the 157-yard shot didn't count as he had already played another ball on the same hole.

The 53-year-old, from West Avenue in Tividale, said: "I took my first shot and it wasn't a very good one. I hadn't been playing very well to be honest, and it fell short of the green.

Caddy

"I was that disgusted, I said to one of my partners, just jokingly, 'I could have hit that with one of my putters'. So he told me to have a go. I let the other two guys tee off, and I told my caddy to get a ball and my putter out of my bag. I put it on the tee and I just hit it – and I hit it perfectly. It was crazy, there was a big cheer, and all the caddies were cheering. It was a bit of a feat, really rare."

The world record for the longest hole in one with a putter was set on the par-3 fifth hole on the Eden Course at St Andrews in 2001. Fergus Muir, 66, used an 80-year-old hickory-shafted putter to achieve the feat.

School's tributes to victim of crash

SCHOOLGIRL Natasha Whale, who died in a car crash on her way to school, was a 'model student' who loved sport and performing arts, teachers have said.

Thirteen-year-old Natasha was killed on Monday after the car in which she was a back-seat passenger in was involved in a collision with an Adams Tours coach in Valley Road, Blakenall, Walsall.

In a statement, Walsall Academy said: "The students and staff at Walsall Academy are devastated by the news. Natasha was a model student who loved performing arts and sport. She was popular with staff and students alike and will be sadly missed. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family at this very difficult time."

The tribute came as Staffordshire County Girls Football League announced it will hold a minute's silence at its games this weekend in memory of Natasha who was a keen footballer and had played for Wyrley Pumas and later Burntwood Phoenix. Wyrley Juniors chairman Keith Hardy said: "She was a credit to her family."

Her 45-year-old mother is in a critical condition in hospital but her brother Callum, 17, who was in the front seat of the Renault Clio, is out of hospital.

Chief hits out over M6 Toll

THE M6 Toll is a 'disaster' that is not attracting enough traffic, it has been claimed Unions at the Highways Agency say the 27-mile stretch bypassing the Birmingham conurbation had 'proved a disaster both as an investment and as a relief road'.

The Highways Agency's chief executive Graham Dalton told a House of Commons Transport Committee that 35,000 vehicles a day were using the road but 100,000 were using the main M6.

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Junction delays expected with works

MOTORISTS are being warned about possible delays in Bearwood as work gets underway on a busy junction leading into Birmingham.

Drivers making their way into and out of Sandwell via the Hagley Road are being warned to allow extra time as work has started on the £1.3 million improvement to the Kings Head Junction on the border of Bearwood and Harbourne.

The long-awaited improvement work is being carried out by Amey on behalf of Birmingham City Council and will include increasing the width of the carriageway, filling in the underpass that runs underneath the road and adding crossing facilities

The improvement s come in the wake of a number of accidents at the junction. Councillor Bob Piper is one of the Abbey ward councillors who have been campaigning for more than 15 years to see improvements made at the junction. He said: "We are quite relieved that the work has gone ahead, it has been a long time coming."

Motorists and local businesses have reported a build up of traffic along Hagley Road, Bearwood Road and Lordswood Road all of which lead up to the junction since work began at the end of last week.

Councillor Piper said: "We accept there will be some inconvenience to motorists while work takes place but it is to be expected.

"We have got a number of secondary schools on the other side of the Hagley Road that have students from Bearwood and the surrounding area. Up until now they have had to use and unpleasant subway that regularly floods and which has been associated with the sale of drugs."

Residents hit out at hall revamp scheme

A SCHEME to revamp an historic hall and build dozens of new homes could make traffic worse, put extra demand on nearby schools, and block residents' scenic views.

Around 40 people aired their views over the project to transform the site of Great Barr Hall at a public meeting last week. Developers BCG Lakes and Lapworth Architects want to convert the site.

The hall has stood empty on the Walsall-Sandwell border since 1978, and it is hoped to convert it into a hotel and conference venue, along with building 57 homes.

But some opposition has formed against the scheme, claiming the plans could damage greenbelt land.

Traffic problems along the already heavily used Chapel Lane, near Great Barr Hall, were also raised as concerns.

The meeting, organised by Ukip activists, was held at Great Barr Methodist Church, in Sundial Lane, last Thursday, as a platform to gather views.

Resident Steve Gray, speaking after the meeting said: "The main thing is that the people living nearby will have 57 homes right in front of them.

"I feel sorry for the people of Chapel Lane and the surrounding streets. It is those people who are on the front line."

Paul White, a member of Ukip Walsall branch, said: "Considering we have already had three public meetings on this subject I thought the turnout was pretty good."

Fellow Ukip campaigner, Jim Carver, who is standing in the upcoming European elections, added: "I would say the majority of the people who came here tonight were against it.

"I said in my speech that it is important that we keep the greenbelt land. Once it has gone, it's gone."

Passengers stuck after fault hits

PASSENGERS were stranded on trains on railway lines as engineers worked to restore power after an electrical fault near a station.

Electric cables affecting signals near Langley Green train station, near Oldbury, burst into flames at around 4.50pm last Thursday. It caused the electricity supply to be disrupted – causing barriers at the Crosswells Road level crossing to shut down blocking the street.

More than 20 replacement coaches were laid on for travellers but many still faced disruption during last night's rush hour commute. Engineers from Network Rail worked through the night to ensure a full service was operational afterwards.

At the height of the problems, many train signals along the line between Birmingham Snow Hill and Stourbridge Junction stations also stopped working, forcing Network Rail to halt many London Midland and Chilton Railways services.

Four trains stuck on the tracks at the time fire broke out remained stranded until being taken to the nearest station to allow passengers to disembark.

Making the right Connexions

Front, Shirley Wright, with Emma Hamilton, Rebecca Paling and Libby Marshall at the fair

MORE than 100 jobseekers have attended a careers fair aimed at helping them secure apprenticeships and college courses.

Representatives from the NHS, Sandwell Council and Sandwell College attended the event in West Bromwich.

The fair was organised by careers service Connexions Sandwell to try to boost the job prospects for young people.

Apprenticeships learning the skills in pharmacies, administration and dental nursing were among the roles on offer.

People could also get advice on how to get into construction, engineering and hairdressing.

Officials talked to dozens of young people also keen on work in health and social care professions during the afternoon.

The careers showcase had been targeted at 16 to 24 year-olds but older adults were also given advice at the event held at the High Street centre.

Baggies' matchday barge set for return

THE Baggies Barge will return to the waterways five more times this season, starting with the visit of champions Manchester United.

The unique pre-game travel service will be running for the visit of David Moyes's men on March 8, which kicks off at 12.45pm.

The matchday supporter service will also be available for the home games against Cardiff on March 29, Tottenham on April 12, West Ham on April 26 and Stoke on May 11.

For the United game, the Baggies Barge will depart Gas Street Basin, Birmingham, at 10.45am and arrive at the former Navigation Pub, Middlemore Road, West Bromwich at approximately noon.

The return journey departs around 30 minutes after the full-time whistle.

Fans can book online now at www.wbatickets.co.uk by clicking the 'Travel' tab, by emailing tickets@wbafc.co.uk or calling 0121 227 2227. Baggies Barge tickets are sold on a first-come, first-served basis and cost £7. Batham's beer and other real ales are available on board.

24 jobs go at book firm

THERE have been 24 redundancies after administrators were appointed at a Birmingham book and software wholesaler and retailer.

David Bennett and Nigel Morrison of Grant Thornton have been appointed for Computer Bookshops Ltd and are continuing to trade the various divisions with a view to selling them as going concerns. The remaining 26 employees are helping them to continue trading.

The 35-year-old firm's divisions include wholesaler CBL Distribution; online retail sites such as bookaxis.com

Estate to get

A convenience store is to open on an Oldbury estate. One Stop will open in Hales Lane, Uplands, on Thursday.

Store manager Richard Bishop said: "We're all very excited about welcoming customers here. With such a wide variety of products

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Duped pensioner warns of phone con

A PENSIONER duped out of hundreds of pounds by a cruel phone con has warned other residents to be wary of thieves posing as police officers.

The 85-year-old from Handsworth Wood, who is remaining anonymous, handed over his bank card and PIN number to 'convincing' bogus detectives who called claiming his account had been hacked by card cloners.

He was awoken in the early hours of January 17 and told his card had been copied and used on a £1,000 shopping spree.

The scammers advised him to call his bank to block further transactions, but they jammed the line so, when the former coal merchant redialled thinking he was giving security details to bank staff, he was actually still speaking to the bogus caller.

They dispatched a 'courier' to collect his bank card saying it was needed as evidence, before helping themselves to more than £300 in a matter of minutes.

Now the pensioner has labelled the fraudsters 'low-life cowards' and urged other residents to protect themselves by switching on to the scam.

He said: "I called what I thought was my bank and then dialled 999, but on both occasions because I used the same phone, it turns out I was still speaking to the same people. First they pretended to be detectives, then bank staff and then 999 call handlers – they must have passed the handset between them because each voice sounded different.

"I had no idea people could jam a phone line by not hanging up. I found out later that a neighbour had heard of this kind of scam but not told anyone – if I'd have known I'm sure I wouldn't have fallen for it. These are low-life cowards stealing savings and pension money from the elderly. They are very convincing in getting your bank card and details." Less than an hour after handing his card over to the hoax courier the 85-year-old became suspicious and dialled 999 from a mobile phone, and was told by genuine officers it was a fraud and advised to contact his bank.

The so-called Courier Con gained popularity among scammers last year, and in the first six weeks of this year more than 30 people have fallen for the ruse and collectively lost around £10,000.

West Midlands Police Chief Inspector Artherley, said: "These con artists are cold, calculated thieves: their tactic is to scare and confuse elderly people into handing over sensitive information."

Jail for 'cold-blooded' killing of school friend

A MAN who killed his school friend has begun his jail sentence, and will serve a minimum of 27 years, after being found guilty of murder in a bid to gain more than £375,000.

Jagdev Singh Rai was found guilty of the 'cold-blooded murder' of Jasbir Singh Bains by a majority jury verdict of 10 to two at Wolverhampton Crown Court last week. Their deliberations had taken 12 hours and seven minutes.

On Friday Rai was sentenced to 27 years. He showed no emotion as the verdict was delivered.

The body of Mr Bains was found floating in a lake in Dartmouth Park, West Bromwich, on November 28, 2012, his throat having been cut.

During the trial the jury was told how Rai, of Salisbury Road, West Bromwich, stole his school friend's name in order to take out a life insurance policy worth £318,913, several years before his death.

Mr Bains was said to have owed Rai £14,000 after falling on hard times, before moving to Canada to live with family.

Property

He also obtained a mortgage for a property on Poultney Street, West Bromwich, in the value of £56,703, using the same name.

In the event of the death of Mr Bains, who was aged 41 and of no fixed address when his body was found, it meant Rai, 44, stood to gain more than £375,000, including the value of the West Bromwich property.

Police searches of Rai's home had revealed documents showing he had changed his name legally to Jamie Rai in February 2003, then to the name of Mr Bains in June 2006.

A further false document suggested he wished to abandon the name of Mr Bains once more, and be known again as Jamie Rai.

The prosecution had admitted that the case was dependant on 'various strands of circumstantial evidence' – something Mr Andrew Fisher, defending Rai, had called 'horribly weak'. That evidence included CCTV of Mr Bains and Rai together the night before the murder, when the victim was staying in Rai's van.

The scene at Dartmouth Park in West Bromwich after the body was found

Jagdev Singh Rai who has started a 27-year jail sentence

Rai had denied murder, with Mr Fisher telling the jury that there was no actual evidence that he was involved in the killing.

The court heard that the pair had known each other for years, but Jasbir had a difficult life and at the time of his death was homeless and struggling with an alcohol and drug addiction.

He had also fallen on hard times years before and moved to live with family in Canada, owing £14,000 to Rai at the time from a loan. After police found Bains's body floating on the park's lake on November 28, 2012, they had interviewed Rai.

The investigation that followed revealed that Rai had changed his name to Jasbir Bains – the same as the victim's – eight years ago and took out a life assurance policy in that name two years later, worth almost £319,000. He also executed a trust deed which meant the beneficiaries of the policy in the event of Jasbir's death would be Rai's own children.

The prosecution claimed this was the reason for the murder; his children would get the insurance payout, which would in turn give Rai some much-needed cash.

Detective Inspector Warren Hines, who led the investigation, said: "In the last few months of his life, Jasbir had a difficult existence; he had no fixed home, was an alcoholic and had little direction in life.

"Through it all, he thought he had a friend in Jamie Rai who, in the few weeks before his death, was very hospitable and let him sleep in a van parked at the back of his house. But Rai was secretly plotting what he thought would be the perfect murder; he would become a rich man by killing his 'friend', out of sight of the public and away from any CCTV cameras."

The absence of any eye-witnesses, or scientific proof of who killed Jasbir, had meant the prosecution case relied solely on circumstantial evidence to prove the murder.

Records linked Rai to the mobile phone number used to text Jasbir inviting him to the park on the night of his death.

Councillor retraces his steps as a Tory

A STALWART councillor is crossing the floor of Sandwell Council again and going back to the party where he started.

Councillor Tony Ward, who became an Independent representative after being ousted from the leadership of the Conservative group in 2010, is going back to the Tories. It will mean he will join the other two members in the authority's main opposition party. Labour has maintained its stranglehold over the authority for years.

Councillor Ward, who represents the Charlemont with Grove Vale ward, was toppled as Tory leader in May 2010 at the party's annual meeting.

Councillor Wardsaid: "I have crossed the floor and rejoined the Conservative party. This decision was made in light of the current situation in Sandwell.

"I have always been a Conservative at heart and I am delighted to have been accepted back into the party.

"As a Conservative, working with Conservative colleagues, I will be in a much better position to help the people of Sandwell." He has previously bemoaned the 'the frightening lack of opposition' at the Labour-dominated council.

Headteacher targets run

A POPULAR headteacher has launched his annual appeal for sponsors for a 10km run in aid of pupils at his special school.

Gordon Phillips, the headteacher of The Meadows Sports College in Oldbury, does a 6.3 mile-run every year to raise funds for pupils. Although they range from aged 11-19, their developmental age is from around three months to five years old.

To ask for a sponsor form, call 0121 569 7080 or visit www.themeadows.sandwell.sch.uk/please-sponsor-our-principal-today-and-help-us-buy-a-sensor-mat-for-12k/

Helping pets

A CHARITY event to raise money for the rescue of cats and dogs will take place in Smethwick. It will be held at St Hilda's Church in Abbey Road on March 29 from 12 noon to 4pm. Money raised will go to Cats 'N' Dogs Aid Association.

NEWS in brief

Genealogy help on new courses

PEOPLE can learn more about mapping out family history at courses coming up later this year.

The Birmingham and Midland Society for Genealogy and Heraldry will be holding courses both introductory and advanced in family history.

This year they are on the following dates: First Steps in Family History will be held on April 12, while Further Steps in Family History on will be held on October 11. For more information visit http://bmsgh.org/planner.

Apprenticeships pledge by chiefs

A PLEDGE will be made to place 100 young people into apprenticeships in 100 days to coincide with the opening of National Apprenticeship Week.

The pledge is being made by Sandwell Council, Sandwell College and supported by Adrian Bailey MP, who are working in partnership to boost the prospects of young people.

The Youth Jobs Convention where the pledge will be made, will be held at Sandwell Council House, Freeth Street, Oldbury, on Monday.

Fake ciggies haul found by officers

A HAUL of 260,000 illegal cigarettes was discovered when traffic police made a routine stop of a van with no tax.

A 49-year-old man has been arrested and bailed on suspicion of tax evasion following a routine stop by traffic officers on Kenrick Way in West Bromwich. It came as police carried out an operation to crack down on cars with no tax.

Man back in jail following appeal

A MAN is back behind bars following an appeal to trace him in connection with a recall to prison and an alleged pub assault.

Detectives appealed to the public to help trace Michael Pennings, aged 24, last week in connection with a reported attack in the toilets of the Woden Inn, Church Hill, Wednesbury.

Speedy helpers

A SPEED-dating style event was held to pair up volunteers with good causes. Volunteer Centre Sandwell hosted a so-called speed match session for 16 to 25 year olds at Sandwell Council House Chambers.

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NEWS

THE BEST OF PETER RHODES

A READER is troubled by the British Gas advert offering "unlimited" call-outs to fix your broken boiler. He says: "It doesn't say much for the quality of the plumbers they employ, does it?" He's got a point. What is the difference between unlimited call-outs and one flaming call-out after another?

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FORTY religious leaders condemn government welfare policy and the numbers relying on food banks, and reap a rich crop of headlines ("Bishops Slam Cam Over UK's Hunger Crisis" - Daily Mirror). It is a puzzle of this cheerfully godless age of ours that we still pay attention to the views of people whose only claim to authority is being far more superstitious than the rest of us.

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DAVID Miranda this week lost his High Court case claiming he had been unlawfully detained at Heathrow while carrying computer files for his partner, Guardian journalist Glenn Greenwald. Miranda says he will appeal "and keep appealing to the end," and he probably will. A High Court case and subsequent appeals would bankrupt most folk but there always seems to be a bottomless pot of money for people fighting cases such as this. And six months after the incident, we still don't know what Miranda was doing at Heathrow in the first place. His mission was to get from Berlin to his home in Brazil. He could have taken any number of direct flights. Instead, bizarrely, he flew into one of only two countries in the world (the other being the United States) where he was likely to be detained. The flight was arranged and paid for by the Guardian. Amid all the tub-thumping about national security and press freedom, we are not being told even half of this story.

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IF I were a conspiracy theorist I might think the Guardian brought Miranda to Heathrow as part of a win-win operation. If he gets nicked you have a great story about the UK authorities attacking press freedom. If he doesn't get nicked, you have a great story about tens of thousands of confidential files slipping in and out of the country under the noses of bungling cops. Gosh, what an old cynic I am.

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WITH the row over keeping the pound and losing EU membership, the Scottish independence debate was looking like one of those deliciously civilised divorces when the couple are determined to stay friends. She wants the Volvo? No problem. He wants the piano? Be my guest. And then suddenly you hit a raw point. The civilised smiles vanish. Spitting, snarling fury takes over. What's that? You'd like the dog, too? Over my dead body, you greedy cow. But the longer this saga drags on, the more you realise it isn't like a divorce at all. A married couple is made up of two separate bodies but Scotland and England are hard-wired into each other. We share the same blood, muscle and sinews. Independence is like separating a pair of conjoined twins. Given enough time and clever, skilled surgeons, it might be done with both twins surviving. But time is running out and we don't see much skill or cleverness, just a lot of posturing and waving of claymores. This could get very bloody indeed.

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A READER enquires: "Does the chairman of a fishing club have the casting vote?"

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A GREAT little documentary on BBC World Service told how the locals looted (or "saved," as they put it) the cargo of whisky from SS Politician, a cargo ship which sank in 1941 off the Scottish island of Eriskay. The plundering of thousands of cases of single malt was the basis of the book and film Whisky Galore! and has been told many times. But the radio documentary reveals that some islanders were so "under the influence," as one old chap put it, that they forgot where they had buried it. It's still up there . . .

Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star

Mad O'Rourke's pub set to expand

MAD O'Rourke's Pie Factory pub, a long-established landmark in the Black Country, is set to expand in a bid to cope with increasing demand and soaring customer numbers, it has emerged.

Pete Towler, who stepped in to buy the site back from administrators in 2011, has now submitted expansion plans for the dining area of the popular venue. The proposal, which would cost around £65,000 to make a reality, could create around 30 more seats for diners.

Mr Towler, from Wolverhampton, said he was grateful to the support of his patrons for making the pub such a success. He said: "The Tipton pub has always been the Mad O'Rourke's flagship.

"Fortunately people have supported us and we can only hope to repay that by getting more people in - the more, the merrier."

The 54-year-old said the scheme was developed as the pub was regularly serving 250 covers on a Saturday night and he wanted to stop 'turning away as many customers as we are serving'.

He added: "We're very fortunate to have so many people who want to come and see us but we want to welcome these people in."

If the scheme is approved by Sandwell Council, Mr Towler said there was also the promise of a potential extra few jobs at the pub as demand increased from the extra customers that the venue would be able to cater for.

He added: "We do anticipate maybe employing some more people if the extension goes through. It could be at least two people, I'd say."

The venue already has 25 full and part-time staff.

Drunks who blighted streets are kicked out

THREE drunks who blighted the streets of West Bromwich with a catalogue of vile behaviour have been kicked out of the UK.

Slawomir Lewalski, aged 49, Janusz Dzieciolowski, 40, and Maciej Bortkiewicz, 34, were arrested and taken to detention centres elsewhere in the UK for their subsequent removal back to Poland. Police have described the move as 'extraordinary'.

By Alex Homer

They said Lewalski, also known as Sticks, was 'a notorious drunk' in West Bromwich, and was often found in gutters having soiled himself.

Dzieciolowski was said to be a 'notorious drunk and beggar' who was often found drunk in properties he had forced entry to. Dzieciolowski handed himself in for arrest in West Bromwich when it became clear officers were cracking down on abusive drunks who were scaring people in the town centre.

Bortkiewicz, also known as Rocky, who was given a five-year Asbo following years of nuisance behaviour, was arrested in Birmingham city centre after members of the public at Moor Street Station and a Big Issue seller flagged down officers, having been shown his image on a wanted poster earlier that day.

The men were put on flights at Heathrow airport to return to Poland.

Insp Akeel Najib, from Sandwell Police, said: "This action, in conjunction with UK Border Agency, shows that we take concerns raised by local communities seriously and we will not tolerate acts of anti-social behaviour.

"Ultimately, these men have been returned to their home country because they were unable to demonstrate that they were working, looking for work, studying, or were self-sufficient."

Europeans have the right to extend their stay in the UK beyond three months if they are working, seeking employment, studying or are self sufficient. The men were asked to prove that they met the criteria to stay in the country and were detained and moved to a detention centre when they failed to do so.

Insp Najib added: "This was an extraordinary step for my officers to take but it must be remembered that these people were persistent offenders of anti social behaviour."

Police target thieves

POLICE will carry out extra patrols on a high street to crack down on shoplifters. Officers in the Abbey ward of Sandwell are trying to reduce shoplifting around Bearwood Road in Bearwood. In January, there were 12 shoplifting complaints – with 11 of them investigated and resolved.

Sgt Gary Evans however said neighbourhood officers' ambition was to reduce that type of complaint altogether.

That action is being coupled with concerted efforts around Sandon Road, Bearwood – a well-known vice area – which has led to a reduction of ladies of the night plying their trade.

Relief for victim as appeal lost

Louise Pilkington from Rowley Regis who survived a fire attack from her former partner

A JILTED boyfriend jailed for 19 years for pouring petrol over his ex-girlfriend and setting her and her home alight has lost an appeal against his sentence.

Louise Pilkington today spoke of her relief after Damion Sheldon, 43, lost his challenge at the Court of Appeal in London.

Sheldon called at the 32-year-old's home in Rowley Regis and poured petrol through her letter box and then on to her before turning her into a fireball in December 2012. Sheldon, of Russells Hall Road, Dudley, admitted reckless arson and was found guilty of attempted murder. On Tuesday at the Court of Appeal, judges Lady Justice Sharp, Mr Justice Sweeney and Judge Stephen Kramer QC said the term was deserved. Miss Pilkington, who still lives in the Rowley Regis area, said she was 'full of relief' at the judges' decision.

Milestone for group in funeral planning

A CHARITY is this month celebrating a 25 year partnership that has seen them help 350,000 people with funeral plans nationally.

Age UK and funeral services provider Dignity have been working together to provide funeral planning assistance to older people across the country.

Soulla Stylianou, trading manager at Age UK Sandwell, said: "Our collaboration with Dignity has spanned a successful 25 years where we have provided customers with the peace of mind that their funeral planning is taken care of.

"Our customers tell us that paying for their funeral is a significant concern for them, both emotionally and financially. The Age UK Funeral Plan guarantees that the cremation funeral costs covered by the plan are met in full, meaning less worry and financial strain for all involved."

Any customers that buy an Age UK Funeral Plan before March 30 will get £25 off the price of any of the three available plans.

For more information call 0121 500 1870, or visit Age UK Sandwell, Bull Street, West Bromwich.

Pot luck as club grows

A SNOOKER club has nine extra players in the frame after launching an appeal for new members.

Retired people or those aged 55 or above are invited to play at The Retired Mens Snooker Club based at the Wesley Centre, Wednesbury. The Spring Head club lost 15 of its members over the past year and called for new players to join up.

And since an appeal for more ball-potting experts or safety shot specialists to come forward, the club has swollen its ranks. For more information, ring the centre on 0121 556 0420 from 12pm until 3.30pm.

Chipping call

DOG owners can bring along pets to be microchipped for free at Red House Park in Great Barr on March 8. The Dogs Trust are offering free microchipping from 10am to 4pm outside the pavilion. There is no need to book. For details call David Fisher on 07775 966790.

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Ex-MP Dennis passes away at the age of 71

Lord Bilston, who has died

LORD Bilston, the prominent Black Country politician and campaigner, former Wolverhampton MP Dennis Turner, has died aged 71.

He served as Labour MP for Wolverhampton South East from 1987 to 2005 before being made a peer.

Lord Bilston had been suffering from cancer, with tumours on his spine, since November and had spent time in hospital in Oswestry and Wolverhampton's New Cross before spending his final weeks at home surrounded by his family.

A minute's silence was held at last night's Bilston Town football match while flags were flying at half mast at Wolverhampton City Council's headquarters yesterday.

Friends and former colleagues paid tribute to a 'great son' of Wolverhampton and a man who had earned the love and respect of 'all who came to know him'. The father of two was previously a Wolverhampton councillor for 20 years including seven as deputy leader and had been at the forefront of the campaign to save Bilston Steelworks in the 1970s.

Elected to the council at the age of 22 in 1966, he was one of its youngest ever members.

He was a member of the West Midlands County Council from 1973 until 1986. In later years he had successfully campaigned to keep Bilston as part of one Parliamentary constituency, fighting plans for it to be carved up between four different MPs as part of a proposed review of boundaries. His successor as an MP, Labour's Pat McFadden, said: "Our city has lost a great son. Dennis was a true Bilston patriot.

"He was a passionate and committed representative of the local community. Few MPs knew their constituents so well and so closely. He faced his final illness with characteristic spirit and courage. He will be hugely missed. Dennis always said you should go through life making friends and not making enemies and that was a real, core part of his political outlook." Labour party leader Ed Miliband tweeted his sadness. "Very sad to hear about the passing of Dennis Turner. He dedicated his life to public service."

Delight as building in line-up for award

COUNCIL chiefs have spoken of their pride that an £8.8 million school building designed in-house to cope with extra demand from the baby boom, has been shortlisted for an award.

The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) West Midlands Awards are held annually to celebrate excellence in building projects.

And the Shireland Hall Primary School has been shortlisted for an award within the RCIS Community Benefit category.

The three-form entry school was built to replace a one-and-a-half-form entry in Edith Road, Smethwick, in a bid to cope with increasing numbers of pupils requiring places.

The school was designed by Sandwell's Urban Design and Building Services and incorporates many sustainable and environmental initiatives such as low maintenance and running costs.

Tipton's new £8 million swimming pool was also listed for an award within the same category. Councillor Maria Crompton, Sandwell's environment chief, said "We hope that both schemes are successful in the later stages of the awards scheme."

Warning on lantern use

WEST Midlands Fire Service bosses appeared on popular television show Countryfile to warn against using Chinese lanterns – eight months on from a huge blaze at a recycling plant in the Black Country.

More than 200 firefighters were involved in tackling the fire at the Jayplas recycling centre in Dartmouth Road in June, which was sparked by a single Chinese lantern.

Since then calls have been growing for the lanterns to be banned – and wedding venues across the West Midlands have cracked down on their use.

Radio launch

A NEW community radio station is launching on Saturday. The City, Wolverhampton will hit the airwaves with Former Heart FM and BRMB presenter Paul Bryant presenting a Dancing in the City show, which will run every Saturday between 7pm and 9pm.

Borough tenants in rent arrears top 10,000 mark

MORE than 10,000 people are behind on their rent for council homes in one Black Country borough, leaving a cash-strapped council millions of pounds out of pocket.

A total of 10,606 tenants across Sandwell are in rent arrears, a report shows. Latest figures also show the authority, which must save £120 million by 2016, is owed a combined £5.3million.

This is made up of outstanding rent, council tax arrears, court costs and other tenancy payments owed. Research has revealed that almost half of the people behind on rent – 4,700 people – also owe other debts to the authority.

The 4,700 people owe an average £994 each.

A group of 3,014 tenants owe both rent and council tax arrears totalling £3.1m between them.

Of those people in debt, 1158 tenants owe multiple debts to three or more council pots, amounting to £2.3m. The average debt for each of the people in that struggling group is £2,031 per person.

A third of the tenants who have not been able to keep up with their rent are also being affected by benefit deductions at the same tim. The figures hint at the number of people living on the breadline in the borough.

Chiefs are now working on a strategy to identify individuals in this spiralling debt cycle, and help them if they are eligible for help in the form of discretionary housing payments. These are payments to meet the shortfall between housing benefit and rent liability for tenants.

Councillor Steve Eling, the council's deputy leader and finance bosssaid: "We are trying to do all we can to help people with their finances."

No jail for man who cultivated cannabis

A FATHER of four who set up his own cannabis factory after finding a number of plants has been allowed to keep his freedom.

Scott McDonald took advantage of the situation to grow a crop for his own use after finding the discarded plants, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard.

Prosecuting solicitor Mrs Sati Ruck said police officers were sent to McDonald's home, in Windmill Crescent, West Bromwich, and in a bedroom they found 12 plants being cultivated.

When questioned McDonald, aged 30, said the drug would last him for three months when a second crop would probably be ready for harvesting.

Mr Jas Mann, defending, said that McDonald had a long-standing addiction to the controlled drug but he now realised the time had come to deal with the problem. McDonald admitted producing cannabis and was given a 12 month jail term suspended for two years. He was further placed on supervision for 18 months .

Party on for group's 10th birthday

Left, Maureen Baker, Frances Bagnall, John Wilcox and Liz Windsor (red sitting) who runs the club, celebrate

A POPULAR community group has celebrated its 10th birthday with a party for its members.

The Good Afternoon Club meets at Smethwick's Dorothy Parkes centre every Friday between 1pm and 3.30pm.

The group is for those aged 55 and over and has amassed some 45 members.

It has now marked its 10th birthday with a party.

The entertainment included a singer performing tracks from the 1950s up until more modern ballads like one of the group's favourites – Simply The Best by Tina Turner.

A presentation was also made to the club's chairman Elizabeth Windsor, a grandmother-of-three, who was thanked with a plaque for her 10 years' organising events for members.

Shopkeeper

Treasurer Frances Bagnall, a retired shopkeeper aged 75, said she was proud to be part of a group that was still going so strong.

The mother-of-two said: "We have got a really good programme and a lot of support.

"You hear a lot about various groups closing down but we've got a good membership so we must be doing something right," she said.

A normal afternoon meeting of the group might include quizzes, bingo and a fish and chip supper during the colder months, while in summer members might expect a day trip to places like Evesham and Droitwich for a change of scene.

NEWS in brief

Dubai delight for milestone diner

AN award-winning Indian restaurant and cocktail bar in Birmingham is getting ready for its 500,000th customer who will win a three-day break in Dubai.

Asha's in Newhall Street, opened seven years ago and expects to serve the lucky diner either this week, or next. "We are really proud of our achievement," said director Pawan Kenth.

"We like to think we have created the best Indian restaurant in Birmingham and this is backed up by the number of awards we get."

24 jobs go at book business

THERE have been 24 redundancies after administrators were appointed at an industry-leading book and software wholesaler and retailer in the Midlands.

David Bennett and Nigel Morrison of Grant Thornton have been appointed for Birmingham-based Computer Bookshops Ltd and are continuing to trade the various divisions with a view to selling them as going concerns.

The remaining 26 employees are helping the administrators to continue

New store opens to serve estate

A NEW convenience store is set to open on Uplands estate in Oldbury today. The licenced One Stop shop will open on Hales Lane. Store manager Richard Bishop said: "We're all very excited about welcoming customers here.

"We're certain that local shoppers will be delighted with their new store." The new shop will be open from 6am to 11pm every day.

Re-cycling goods on sale at event

THE North Birmingham Cyclists' Touring Club holds its annual cycle jumble sale on Saturday.

The fundraising sale at the Methodist Church Hall, Station Road, Erdington, takes place from between 10am and 1pm.

There will be both new and second-hand cycle components on sale, as well as cycle clothing.

Wedding show

THE National Wedding Show is at the NEC until Sunday.

The exhibition is expected to attract more than 6,000 brides to be this year and features more than 250 wedding specialists.

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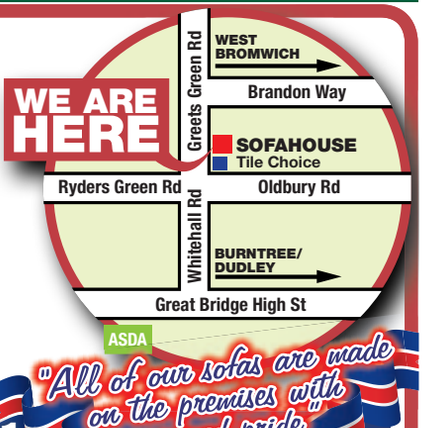

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NEWS FEATURE

IN MY VIEW

WITH MARK ANDREWS

SO, the men's curling team failed to make gold at the Winter Olympics.

Truth be told, I was a little surprised, I would have thought if there was any sport the British should be good at, it would involve young men in orange jump suits sweeping up stones with a brush.

Or Community Payback, as it is sometimes known.

❑❑❑❑❑

MALFUNCTIONING vending machines are right up there with pay-and-display car parks and automated telephone-answering services when it comes to the scourges of modern life.

Their operators rake in a fortune from poor unfortunate individuals who put money into them for no reward, before meekly walking away having decided that a 60p bar of chocolate is not worth going to war over.

Raise a glass, then, to Afghan war veteran Robert McKevitt, who is clearly made of much sterner stuff.

Feeling a snack gap during his shift in a warehouse, he tried to buy a Twix from his work's vending machine.

The machine swallowed his money without delivering the goods, so showing commendable restraint he put another coin in the slot.

Deciding that a more direct approach was needed, he then took a forklift truck to the errant machine, allegedly dropping it six times onto the floor, eventually releasing three Twix bars from the dispenser.

He got the sack, of course, but he did get a free Twix for his trouble. And struck a blow for disgruntled consumers everywhere.

❑❑❑❑❑

NEXT time political commentators start banging on about the poor turnouts at elections in this country, remember the carnage that is taking place in the Ukraine at the moment and be grateful that the British are so splendidly indifferent.

The Ukraine is a country divided, split down the middle between those who want greater links with what remains of the old USSR, and those who seek closer ties with the European Union.

How people can get so worked up over politics seems ridiculous to us in Britain. But of course, all we have to worry about is which band of London-centric, well-to-do liberal types get the ministerial limos for the next five years, so it is hard to get too excited one way or the other.

By comparison, the choices facing the people of the Ukraine are stark indeed. Half of the people seem to want to be ruled by an unelected, undemocratic empire which will suppress their liberty and stamp out their sovereignty. And the other half want to be ruled by Russia.

Clare Arnold, nee Wynne, taken at Walton Farm in 1943

Former Land Girls with sculptor Denise Dutton, centre

Mary Wright, nee Bradbury, working on a farm, aged 18

Statue to honour 'Forgotten Army'

A lasting tribute to unsung wartime heroines is to be erected. **ROB GOLLEDGE** reports on its unveiling

THEY filled the roles of men who had gone to fight for their country - working long and laboursome days on farms and in the forests.

To forever rememberthe Land Girls and Lumberjills of the Women's Land Army and Women's Timber Corps from the First and Second World Wars,a sculpture has been specially commissioned in their honour in a fitting tribute at the National Memorial Arboretum.

Its design was unveiled to a gathering of former Land Girls in the county with a scale clay model.

When complete, the bronze sculpture will be a one-and-a-quarter life size monument of a Land Girl and Lumber Jill as depicted in war time recruitment posters.

It will become a focal point for remembrance and recognition of the legacy and achievements of the women who kept their country fed while the two conflicts were fought overseas.

Forests

The Women's Land Army first formed in 1917 and during the Second World War, more than 80,000 land girls were producing 70 per cent of Britain's food.

The Women's Timber Corps worked in forests and sawmills producing pit props, railway sleepers and barricades.

It disbanded in 1946, although the Women's Land Army was required to keep working for a further four years. In total, nearly a quarter of a million land girls and lumber Jills served the country.

In total the project will cost between £85,000 and £100,000. Around £65,000 has already been raised. It is being organised by the Staffordshire Women's Food and Farming Union – who have set up the Women's Land Army Tribute.

The unveiling of a Land Army tribute sculpture at Amerton Farm

The sculpture is currently being worked on by artist Denise Dutton whose great aunt Sheila Creasy served as a land girl. It is due to be unveiled at the arboretum in Alrewas on May 1.

Mary Wright, 83, became a Land Girl in 1947 during the active years of the Land Women's Army after the Second World War until disbandment in 1950.

Originally from Walsall, she took up duties on a farm near Hoar Cross. She has remained in farming ever since living and running a farm at Four Crosses near Cannock. She helped launch the Land Girl Tribute project and her granddaughter Izzy, 23, who works on a farm in Tixall, posed as a model for the sculpture of the Land Girl.

Mrs Wright said: "It was really hard work but we did what we were asked to done. "I think the design of the sculpture is brilliant.

"The monument will serve as a reminder for generations to come of what the Land Girls and Lumberjills did for this country. We were the forgotten army."

Clare Arnold, 90, is Stafford born and bred. Now living in Queensville, she worked at Lotus Shoes in the county town where she used to trial new fashions. At 18 she joined the Women's Land Army in 1942, serving until 1945.

She first worked at a farm in Walton-on-the-Hill, and then at a farm near where the Staffordshire County Showground is today.

She said: "Everything I did was done by hand. I used to start at 7am because I had had two milk rounds and we used big churns. I could be working until 11pm doing things like hay stacking and then have to be back up again at 7am.

"We enjoyed it. We all remember the good times."

Eunice Finney, press officer for the Women's Land Army Tribute, said: "It is high time these fantastic women were recognised as they changed the face of agriculture during the war.

Ceremony

"Many of these ladies have sadly passed away, but we are determined to honour those that are able to attend the opening ceremony and remember those who are no longer with us."

A call for a sculptor was put out in August 2013 and Miss Dutton was chosen from a shortlist of six.

Miss Dutton said: "It's a great honour to have a part in the Women's Land Army tribute. It was such a great project to be involved with. "

A fundraising drive to pay for her latest work was launched two-and-a-half years ago by the Staffordshire Women's Food and Farming Union.

They have relied on donations from the public. The plinth of limestone for the sculpture has been donated by Longcliffe Quarries Ltd from Bakewell in Derbyshire.Around £20,000 is still needed to fund long-term maintenance and insurance.

The Staffordshire Women's Food & Farming Union is looking for former Land Girls and Lumberjills who want to attend May's ceremony.

They are also after donations to help the project. Call 01889272777 or visit www.womenslandarmytribute.co.uk

THROUGH THE YEARS

1984

A PERTON mother-to-be had an amazing escape when her Mini was crushed beneath the wheels of an articulated lorry. While Lynn Pitt's car was severely damaged outside the Mermaid pub at Wightwick, the 26-year-old escaped with only cuts and bruises.

THERE was a new name in town for Black Country beer lovers, after Ansells announced would be opening a new brewery in the area. The brewing giant formed a new Black Country division called Holt, Plant and Deakin, and said it would be opening a small brewery at its Oldbury headquarters.

FORMER Wolves and England forward Jesse Pye died, aged 62. Pye, who starred alongside Billy Wright and Jimmy Mullen in the all-conquering Wolves sides of the 1950s, scored a hat-trick on his debut after signing for a fee of £10,000 in 1946. He also scored in the 1949 FA Cup final victory over Leicester City.

1994

WOLVERHAMPTON ground to a standstill as the area was hit by unexpected heavy snow. Even the police reduced their car patrols as the borough council admitted it had failed in its efforts to clear the roads.

PRIME Minister John Major admitted he was bewildered by youngsters who bought expensive jeans and then tore holes in them during a visit to a fashion show in the West Midlands.

A ROW broke out after Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean finished a disappointing third at the Winter Olympics in Norway. Ten years earlier, the pair had wowed judges who awarded them a 100 per cent score, but this time they finished behind two Russian duos. A TV poll found that the public thought they had been robbed this time around.

2004

FAMILIES were lining the walls of their homes with tin foil and installing mesh curtains over windows amid health fears over the number of mobile phone masts in the Wolverhampton area. Adam and Nicola Wright, of Essington said they had stripped the wallpaper off the walls of their home and replaced it with foil to protect their children from what they believed were potentially dangerous emissions.

WOLVES legend Bobby Mason unmasked an imposter of the same name who had been opening fetes and attending charity functions in his name. The pensioner had become a local celebrity by posing as the Tipton-born star, who played as inside forward during the club's glory years of the 1950s.

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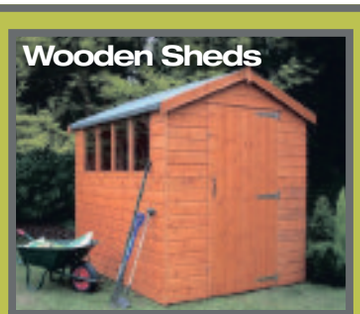

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LETTERS

Time to cut down on faux nurses

INTERESTING to read your story about the Manor hospital having to cut nursing jobs.

If I may be as so bold perhaps the axe could start to fall on all those faux nurses – you know the ones that are armed with clipboards and spend most of the times filling in questionnaires, or those rather expensively paid infection control nurses who do little but wander around the town smoking cigarettes in their uniforms!

Those whose jobs are purely to wage war on dust and any other bugs – even though levels are on the rise and there's a virtual flood of these type of 'nurses' it does not seem to improve. If industry employed such people at high salaries and the levels failed to go down they would no doubt be dismissed.

Then if you include all the other nurses that don't have any actual patient contact, but still call themselves nurses that would shave a lot off the budget. Most people I think would agree that nurses tend to be on wards looking after patients not caring for desks in office surroundings like bed bureaux.

S STROUD, Wednesbury

Foul words in bad taste

REGARDING your coverage of the new Sandwell dog fouling posters, I think that the use of the word S**T on one of the posters is in very poor taste and will definitely lead to some children guessing the word and saying it out loud.

The other poster entitled 'foul' is a clever choice and gets the message across. Sandwell talk about educating people who do not clean up but what about the education of our young children who will undoubtedly use that word when they see these posters?

The use and promotion of such foul language will be impressionable on our young community and I think it's a bad choice of word to use when there are so many other ways to be hard hitting.

Bad taste, bad move.

Ian (Oldbury)

Call over War dead in Korea

I AM acting on behalf of the authorities at the United Nations Memorial Cemetery Busan South Korea where over 800 British servicemen are buried.

The authorities there wish to obtain photographs of those servicemen who are interred there and also those who died but have no known grave. These will be attached to their records and will also be displayed on the walls of the Cemetery Hall of Remembrance.

The following are just some of the young men from Staffordshire who gave their lives in Korea: Bdr Stanley E Williams, Gnr Harold Breakwell, Cpl Ronald G Davies (RM) Pte John Cain, Gnr Thomas F Gibson, L/Cpl John Kain, Spr Ronald Harvey, Fus Spencer D Broadway.

Any family who lost a loved one in the Korean War and wish to take part can send the photograph to me - James Grundy, 102 College Croft, Eccles, Manchester, M30 0AN, email james.grundy102@yahoo.com

J GRUNDY, Eccles

LETTERS to the Editor

POST
Sandwell Chronicle,
Chronicle Editorial,
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Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

E-MAIL
Sandwell
@expressandstar.co.uk

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

Scotland's fight is opening old wounds

BRITISH history in brief.... for centuries England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales have continued to fight each other for control of each other's small part of our islands.

Thousands have lost their lives in this internal struggle.

It has passed down from generation to generation so that even today in sport, for example rugby, we play each other's teams with fervent pride.

Royal families have married each other in order to settle disputes over ownership of land, however, inbred hatred of each other's identity still rears its ugly head today.

Over the years villages amalgamated to form the four national parts of our country but in times of war we have all joined together to repel invaders from the continent.

So, with this in mind, why in this moment in time does Scotland want to open old wounds?

As a country we are now letting our individual lands be invaded from across the world changing our identity as never seen before in our history.

Our ancestry is under threat; Scotland should see this as more of a problem than independence and so should the others, England, Wales and Ireland.

C Vermont
Tipton

Sent out bags are pointless

TODAY I received my food waste plastic bags in order to use them in my brown waste bin.

I also received a helpful booklet telling me that I could put my waste straight into the container, or line my container with foil, or newspaper.

Why send plastic bags then?

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I would also point out that there is the danger of a small child could easily climb into these bags and there are no air holes.

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TRAVEL

Food for thought from chiefs on waste bags

SANDWELL residents are being urged to 'Love their food caddy' as part of the drive to boost recycling rates.

Free food recycling bags are being given to residents to encourage even more people to use the weekly collection service.

Sandwell Council and its waste partner Serco introduced the food recycling in 2011 and will now deliver rolls of 24 compostable liners to all homes with the service.

Councillor Maria Crompton, Sandwell's cabinet member for highways and environment, said there were plenty of reasons for people to give food waste recycling a go if they weren't already.

"Food waste recycling has been a great success with many residents embracing the service and enjoying its benefits," she said.

"Not only are they doing their bit for the environment, people using the service see just how much food they throw away and can save money by buying less in the future. It also helps us send less rubbish to landfill which means avoiding expensive taxes and keeps council tax bills down.

"So I encourage people who don't currently recycle leftover food to use the free bags. They might be surprised at how simple it is to do and how much money they can save."

Jason Holtom, partnership director for Serco, said: "Using the brown food waste container can really help households in Sandwell make smarter decisions when they are shopping by highlighting the food they waste and never manage to eat.

"I encourage all residents to take advantage of the free liners and in doing so they will help themselves make savings." Distribution of the bags started on February 10 and all homes will have received their roll by March 14.

Councillor Maria Crompton, cabinet member for highways and environment.

They will be delivered with an information leaflet highlighting benefits of the food waste recycling.

Items that can be recycled in the new caddies include: fish, tea and coffee grounds, bread and pastries, meat and bones, fruit and vegetables, dairy, other foods including rice, pasta, beans, pulses, cat and dog food

Residents are advised to store the liners in a cool dry place. Food waste is collected on the same vehicle as blue lid recycling but stored in a different compartment

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NEWS

Nigel ready to take a bow-wow as judge

Nigel Slater from West Bromwich, who will be a judge at Crufts, with his two-year-old border collie Ciaran

A DOG-LOVER will be judging the 'equivalent of the World Cup final' when he takes to the floor at the world's largest dog show. Sales manager Nigel Slater will be judging the Obedience Championship at Crufts next month, the pinnacle of the obedience calendar. And it is a once in a lifetime opportunity for Mr Slater, from Kiniths Crescent in West Bromwich, as Kennel Club rules state a person may only judge the championship on one occasion.

Mr Slater, 60, said: "For me to be judging the event on March 7 and 8 is pretty much a personal dream come true. The analogy I would give is, if I was a football referee, it would be like being invited to judge the World Cup final."

Mr Slater first got a dog in early 1979 after returning home to find he had been burgled, and as he took on an alsatian he felt he would need a few obedience lessons. From there he began taking part in obedience contests.

Wrong-way M5 driver admits she was drunk

A DEPRESSED care worker has admitted driving the wrong way along the M5 while twice over the drink-drive limit.

Katy Homer, aged 26, was heavily under the influence of alcohol when she joined the southbound side of the motorway at junction 2 at Oldbury and drove north for three miles to junction 1 for West Bromwich. A lorry driver flashed his lights at her.

Report by Alex Ross

He also sounded his horn as he swerved out of her way – but she carried on up the inside lane of the carriageway.

On leaving the motorway, Homer, of Clent View Road, Colley Gate, near Halesowen, circled the Kenrick Way roundabout twice before being stopped by police. The incident happened on December 4 at around 2.30am. She was recorded as having 79 microgrammes of alcohol in 100 millilitres of breath. The legal alcohol limit is 35 microgrammes.

At Wolverhampton Crown Court last week, Homer pleaded guilty to dangerous driving and drink driving.

Mr Malcolm Fowler, defending Homer, said: "It is a grave allegation.

"I did touch upon medical history, there is a serious condition of depression for this lady who is on medication. She is still in employment despite her condition."

Judge John Warner adjourned the case for a report from her general medical practitioner and the probation service.

He also gave her an interim driving disqualification until a sentencing hearing on March 28.

Homer was charged during West Midlands Police's Christmas campaign to reduce drink driving. Every person who was charged with drink or drug-driving offences was being named on the force website. More than 5,000 motorists were breathalysed, but fewer than seven per cent were over the legal limit.

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NHS HEROES

Doctor sets his sights on helping homeless

WITH homelessness a growing problem in the UK and figures in our area at double the national average, Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals has teamed up with other health providers and partners to offer life changing help to those who may need it.

Enter this week's local NHS Hero Dr Muninder Lotay, aged 35, who is clinical lead for the organisation called Homeless Patient Pathway.

The GP who professes a particular passion for yoga, explained: "For those who are homeless, life expectancy is almost 30 years less than the UK average for those with a permanent roof.

"Often, difficult and unpreventable circumstances have resulted in them being homeless, which in turn places their health at serious risk.

"The homeless are unique in that they often suffer with physical, mental and social ill-health at the same time.

Safeguards

"Homeless patients discharged after their physical problem is healed often come back to hospital again and again. This is known as the revolving door syndrome.

"Ensuring that we address the mental health and social circumstances of such patients on admission ensures a holistic approach and safeguards against deterioration of health on discharge and subsequent readmission.

"Knowing that with committed effort I can make a difference to improve the life of another drives me to do the best I can.

"Over time, in the grand scheme of things, I have realised that the life-changing event of going from housed to homeless is only a step away.

"It would be a mistake to say that the homeless are a subsection of society, as fundamentally they are no different to you or I.

"Had I not had the overwhelming support of loving parents and a well-structured society when it mattered, I genuinely believe I too would be homeless.

"For me the staff of the Homeless Health Exchange are my heroes.

"The receptionists, nurses and GPs working there have taught me what commitment, patience and perseverance can do – often with people who may be difficult to engage with or require several attempts before they are willing to recognise or deal with their health issues.

"These staff really are a pillar for a vulnerable community and ensure good medical care is delivered where others may have easily given up."

Dr Lotay is presenting at Sandwell and West Birmingham NHS Trust's event 'Raising the Roof for Homelessness' tomorrow, Friday, where he will be outlining the journey so far in the project to help the homeless in the borough.

He advised: "Statistics have shown that the Homeless Patient Pathway has reduced readmission rates for patients who have been frequently admitted to hospital.

"It has also enabled several allied agencies such as housing, mental health, primary care, drug and alcohol services to work more closely together.

"This promotes joined up care and further closes the distinction between primary and secondary care. Here we can truly see the seamless transition of health between primary and secondary care."

In addition to his work with the homeless, Dr Lotay works as an urgent care doctor at the weekends.

ONCE again we focus some of our time on the quiet heroes from a wide variety of backgrounds, doing a wide variety of jobs, in one of the Black Country's largest NHS organisations – Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals NHS Trust.

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NEWS

Talented Jenni finds TV show sew intense

SHE caught the sewing bug less than two years ago after making her own wedding dress.

And now Walsall's Jenni Taylor can be seen on TV battling it out on the new series of The Great British Sewing Bee.

She has her husband Kirk to thank for that, after he sent in an application to the show's producers without telling her.

"We were hooked on the first series. Then I had a random call out of the blue one day to say I'd got through to the audition stages. Next thing I know I'm filming for the show in London."

Jenni said working under the watchful eyes of judges May Martin and Patrick Grant was a 'privilege'.

She added: "Being on the show was very intense. It really was the best. I was surrounded by so many talented people. They had years more experience than me.

Creative

"It was very intimidating being critiqued so intensely. It was a complete privilege to be around Mary and Patrick but at times I was so petrified."

Jenni, who works as a resource co-ordinator at Echo in Walsall, admitted to always been creative, even as a youngster, making handmade teddy bears and pencil cases at school.

Before her wedding in August 2012, she made the decision to make her own gown.

She continued: "I wanted to make my wedding dress myself. I couldn't find a dress I liked anywhere. You don't need lots of money to get the perfect dress. I made it out of organza and paper lac."

As well as sewing, Jenni, who is originally from West Bromwich, also sings in a band called Snooty Bobs with Kirk, 33, and six others. She watched the opening episode of the Great British Sewing Bee with 20 or so of her friends and family at Hockley Street Studios in Birmingham on a big projection screen.

She added: "I have kept in contact with a lot of the guys from the show. Claudia was awesome.

"She was mental but we needed that when the pressure was on." So has she got the competition all sewn up? "I can't say how well I did, you'll have to watch," she added.

The first series of the Great British Sewing Bee last year was won by 81-year-old Ann Rowley.

It is shown every on Tuesday on BBC2 at 8pm.

Jenni gets to work on a latest creation

Jenni with a dressmaker's dummy

Jenni singing with the Snooty Bobs

With Kirk in her crafted wedding dress

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MEMORY LANE

Jubilee Arts founder Steve Trow, now a councillor, dances down the street as Mr Spiffo

Two boys in Friar Park smile for the camera in 1977 or 1978

Right, MP Tom Watson launches the project, with founder Steve Trow, second left

Smethwick breakdancer Robert Mackenzie, in 1984

A group of young men in Tipton pose for the camera in 1980

Bostin' treasure trove with pictures archive

by Adam Grinsell

LIKE the Pied Piper of West Brom, 'Mr Knowall' makes his way down the street cheered on by a procession of children.

In their tank-tops and flares, the beaming kids bob down the street holding up signs reading 'Wanted! A Play To Play' and 'Spiffo Is Our Hero' after another character just out of shot.

Mr Knowall himself may look like Noddy Holder's long-lost brother but it's actually Old Warley councillor Steve Trow, leading the procession as part of a street theatre project back in the 70s.

Steve is the founder of Jubilee Arts, a community group that has just landed a Lottery grant of more than £40,000 to preserve the 20,000 images of its 20-year history.

And what a catalogue it is. From punks to breakdancers, school plays to Sunday league, it is an amazing slice of Black Country history. The group now wants to hear from anyone captured in the pictures, which date from 1974 to 1994, to share their stories. All will then be documented as part of the Unseen Sandwell project, providing a unique record of some of the changing places and faces in the borough.

The material is currently uncatalogued and inaccessible to the public but will soon go on show at six events, where it is hoped people will share their stories and help bring the pictures to life. Project director Brendan Jackson said: "In some cases we know who the people in the images are, but in some we don't.

"For instance, one shot shows Robert Mackenzie, of Smethwick breakdance group The Crazy Spades, taking part in a breakdance ballet that toured the country in 1984."

Mr Jackson added: "There's a real lack of that kind of material from the 70s and 80s. It's probably in shoeboxes in people's attics, or has been thrown away, but we want people's images to supplement the existing material."

Councillor Trow said: "The performance was all based on children's games, and trying to get them signed up to a summer play scheme. We would sing and play music, children would join us in Pied Piper fashion, and as we went along we would stop and play a game with them, before moving on to the next spot to gather more children to do it again." A website will be then be created with media, images, memorabilia, audio, texts and learning materials.

A self-portrait during the Oak Road Community Festival, 1981 or 1982

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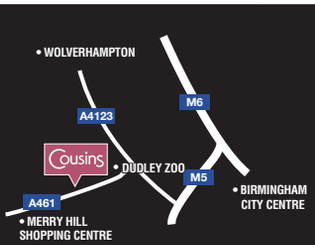

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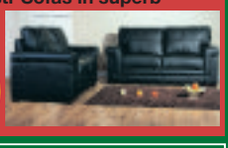

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NEWS

On track for model fun at club's big day

HUNDREDS of rail fans turned up to a model club's annual open day.

Families from across the Black Country visited Warley Model Railway Club's open day at their headquarters in Pearsall Drive, Oldbury, along with model lovers from as far away as Leicester and Peterborough.

Around 260 people turned out for the first of this year's twice-annual open days, which give those living nearby the opportunity to see what happens at one of the most famous model railway clubs in the country.

Twelve layouts were on display, with a range of gauge sizes, some of which are fictional stations based on real places – such as the Yardlea station, based on that of Stechford.

The guest of honour was the Mayor of Sandwell, Councillor Linda Horton, who said, "I went to the National Exhibition Centre earlier on in the year, and judged some of the layouts that were there, for prizes, I was very interested in what they were doing and when I was invited to come here today, I jumped at the chance."

Club members were also on hand to give model-making demonstrations.

The event also featured a new layout based on the popular children's television character Peppa Pig, which was a favourite with younger visitors.

The club's publicity officer David Moorhouse said: "The open day is popular with local families, and the small children get very excited, jumping up and down and screaming The day was very well attended, we've had in excess of 260 visitors coming from as far away as Peterborough."

The open days are also an opportunity for the club, which has been in existence since 1968, to recruit more members. Mr Moorhouse added: "We are going very strong, we've got 200 members currently, and we've picked up a few more at the open day. That's what it's all about, to let people know locally that there's a great club on their doorstep."

The club is also preparing to extend its Pearsall Drive base, by increasing the size of the mezzanine level to accommodate more layouts. Their next open day will take place in May, and their huge annual event at the NEC, attended by hundreds of model fans from around the country, will this year be on November 22 and 23.

To find out more, visit www.warley-mrc.org.uk, or pop into one of their club evenings on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 7.30pm.

Member and councillor Roger Horton

Club chairman Alf Fantham

Mayor Linda Horton, with Alf

Picture by Jozef Lopuszynski

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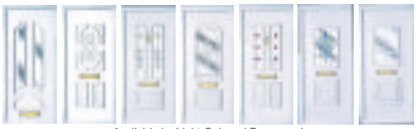

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NEWS

Joy for college chiefs over spaces on offer

THE conversion of the former Public gallery into a sixth form centre will create hundreds more college spaces than first expected, it has emerged.

Not only will the new Central Sixth facility at the former New Street venue have space for 800 students, but the move will also free up an entire floor of the £77 million Sandwell College facility at Spon Lane, West Bromwich.

It will mean the institution can take hundreds more applicants for the most popular courses. Sandwell College Vice-Principal Scott Upton confirmed: "Central Sixth students currently occupy the entire sixth floor of Central Campus.

"Their move to The Public in September will allow other curriculum areas in the college to expand their provision and the numbers of students they can accommodate, due to the extra space created.

Investment

"Classrooms and open study areas can be used flexibly dependent on demand by different departments, who will be able to use the additional space available to offer more places to applicants for the most popular courses."

Building work has already begun and bosses revealed they had received nearly 1,000 applicants for places.

The new facility will open in September this year. Chiefs say the scheme represents a significant investment in education, and the facility will support a host of arts-based activities, which will be open to the public, including the St Patrick's Day festival from 2015.

Once the revamp is completed, a newly renovated café will be open to the public along with a programme of events and exhibition space. A business support centre will also be based in the campus to help start-up companies. Bosses say many of the original

Well-red library group

Janine Fletcher who has been knitting poppies for the Grand Theatre

A COMMUNITY group has got down to the knitty gritty in helping a theatre production come to life next month. Tipton Library's Knitters and Natters group have knitted special poppies which will be used as props in a poignant community-based show at Wolverhampton's Grand Theatre.

The show – Zeppelin Dreams – explores the tragic events of 100 years ago when a huge Graf Zeppelin airship dropped its bombs on Wolverhampton.

The airship was bound for docks in Liverpool but got lost in fog.

Bosses at the Grand have worked with amateur historian Derek Nicholls from the library, who has helped with research. Library staff have been invited to see the show, which takes place on March 20-21.

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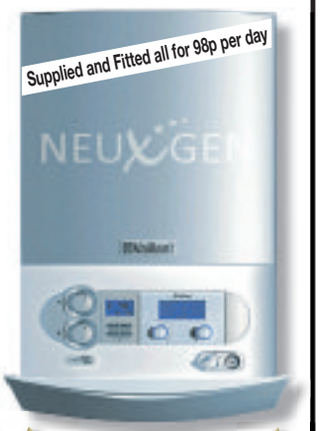

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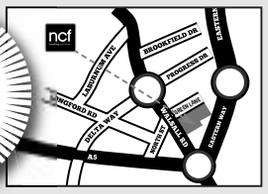

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NEWS

Thousands interested in just 450 force jobs

MORE than 10,000 people have expressed an interest in becoming a West Midlands police officer in just four days.

The force is putting 450 jobs up for grabs as it ends a five-year recruitment freeze. Huge interest is being shown in the new constable roles, which will be rolled out over the next two years. The formal application process doesn't begin until April.

By Tim Spiers

However, chiefs said there was no cap on how many people could register an interest and already, there has been a surge of people registered for positions for which salaries start from £21,999.

Potential applicants were asked to register on the force's website earlier this month, and four days later 10,500 had done so. Traffic on the website soared as soon as it went live, with up to 1,800 visitors viewing the page at its peak.

Temporary Deputy Chief Constable Sharon Rowe said: "It's fantastic for us to be able to offer this opportunity, which will help us to provide an even better service by bringing fresh ideas into our workforce, directly from the communities we serve."

Successful applicants will need to complete two years as a probationary officer and can then work their way up the force's ranks.

Police and Crime Commissioner Bob Jones has said the new officers will not increase the force's overall strength, as they will cover the natural wastage of retirement and transfers to other forces.

Mr Jones said: "After nearly four years without any new officers, this is a great opportunity to infuse the force with new skills and experience."

Coaches looking for more to join in sport

Front, Jack, Luke, Joanne and Lillie-May Cooper, with other youngsters and organisers looking for new members

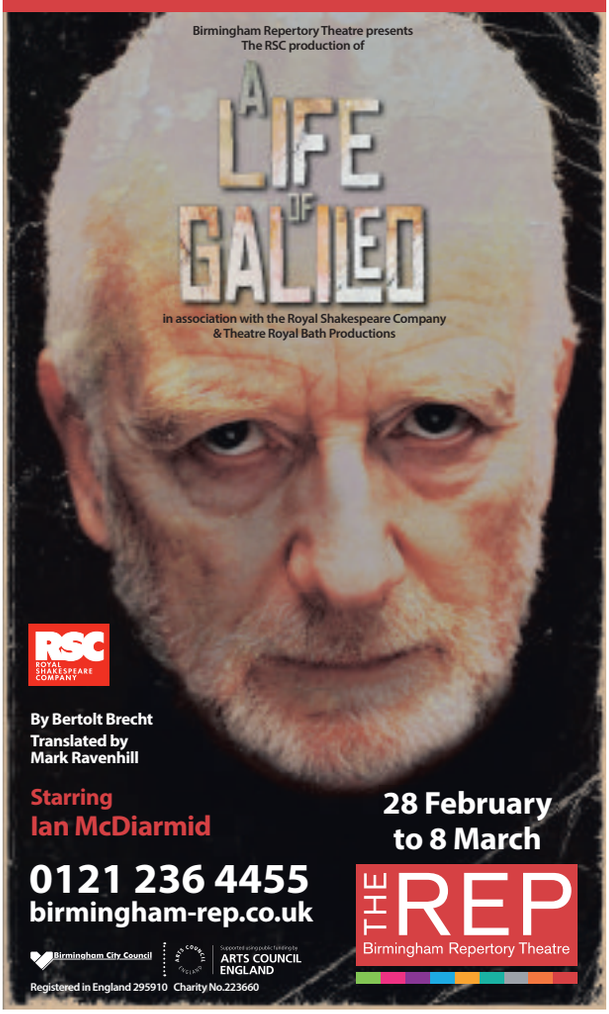
A NEW disability sport programme has been launched at an athletics club with organisers calling on people to sign up. A variety of events are being run by Tipton Harriers at Tipton Sports Academy, Wednesbury Oak Road, ranging from throwing to racing and jumping.

Currently, athletes are being urged to meet on Friday nights from 6-7pm but organisers hope to soon be able to offer an afternoon session to make it easier for people to find transport. Funding of £2,500 has been awarded from England Athletics. For information call 0121 502 5534.

Pub extension backed

A PUB's plans for a rear extension which would increase its size by a third have been approved by council chiefs. The scheme is The Cricketers Arms in Lower Trinity Street, West Bromwich, to have a single-storey rear extension to increase its drinking area. More detail about the development will be the subject of further applications.

THE REP'S SPRING & SUMMER SEASON



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What's On!

St George's Day charity concert

TICKETS are on sale for a concert marking St George's Day at Birmingham's Symphony Hall on April 19.

The event is organised by the Birmingham St George's Day Association. Comedians Don Maclean and Malcom Stent are on the bill with a mystery guest. Also performing will be Birmingham Community Gospel Choir, Sovereign Brass, the group Quill, a local choir and school children. Money raised will go to Troop Aid.

The concert takes place between 6pm and 9pm. Tickets are priced between £5 and £18.

Tickets can be bought at Birmingham Town Hall or Symphony Hall box office, by calling 0121 345 0603 or by visiting the www.thsh.co.uk website.

Neds top bill at indie all-dayer

EXPECT the return of the mosh pit, spilt pints and crowd surfing when Black Country rock legends Ned's Atomic Dustbin top the bill at the Gigantic Classic Indie All-Dayer at Manchester Academy on Bank Holiday Monday, May 24.

Also on the bill will be one of the late John Peel's favourite bands The Wedding Present, Manchester's own The Chameleons, Yorshire's Cud, and Irish outfits The Sultans of Ping and The Frank And Walters.

Tickets for the 10-hour party cost £25. See www.manchesteracademy.net for further information.

Sky's the limit for Ian who returns as Galileo in classic

Fame, it's gonna live forever

LEGWARMERS, star jumps and poignant moments at the piano — it can only mean Fame.

Back in 1980 British director Alan Parker's movie about the tribulations and triumphs of young hopeful students at New York High School of Performing Arts was a surprise hit, spawning a hit TV series and a 2009 movie remake.

Musical

It also led to Fame The Musical, an international theatre hit which had a West End run and toured the UK, featuring the famous title song and such numbers as Hard Work, Let's Play A Love Scene and Think Of Meryl Streep.

The latest UK touring revival brings matters up to date by setting the story in 2014 when it arrives at Wolverhampton's Grand Theatre on Monday for a six-day run — so expect lots of dynamic dancing but fewer dodgy perms.

A scene from the new version of Fame The Musical, being staged in Wolverhampton

THE rational versus the superstitious, science versus the church, a conflict down the ages that still resonates today is the subject of Birmingham Rep artistic director's new staging of A Life Of Galileo.

This is a rapid revival of her own acclaimed production, translated by Mark Ravenhill from the work by Marxist German playwright Bertolt Brecht. It won praise when staged by the Royal Shakespeare Company at Stratford and will again feature Ian McDiarmid in the title role.

It looks at the pioneering Italian scientist's clash with the Roman Catholic Church in the early 17th Century over his assertion that the Earth orbits the Sun.

The play, staged at The Rep from tomorrow night to March 8, is presented as part of a Brecht season at the Centenary Square venue.

The anarchic world of children's TV in the past (think Tiswas and Going Live) is the inspiration for Told By An Idiot's Never Try This At Home at The Rep's Studio from tonight to March 15.

At the theatre's third space, The Door, London Soho Theatre's darkly comic romance Blink, by Phil Porter, is being staged from Monday to Wednesday.

Before Fame The Musical leaps onto the stage, Wolverhampton Grand hosts English Touring Theatre's passionate Eternal Love, the story of the 12th century romance between philosopher and student, Abelard and Heloise, through to Saturday. The lovers are played by real-life couple David Sturzaker and Jo Herbert.

Ian McDiarmid as Galileo

Rod Stewart musical Tonight's The Night is at the New Alexandra Theatre until Saturday. The Birmingham venue then hosts 1700s Scottish adventure Kidnapped on Monday night and Tuesday afternoon.

Concert will be a tale of two cellos

"THEY say the cello is the closest instrument to the human voice. With 'A Tale of Two Cellos' we wanted to sing together in a universal language so that we could share this beautiful music, which spans nearly five hundred years, with everyone." So say husband and wife cello duo Julian and Jiaxin Lloyd Webber of their latest album for classical label Naxos.

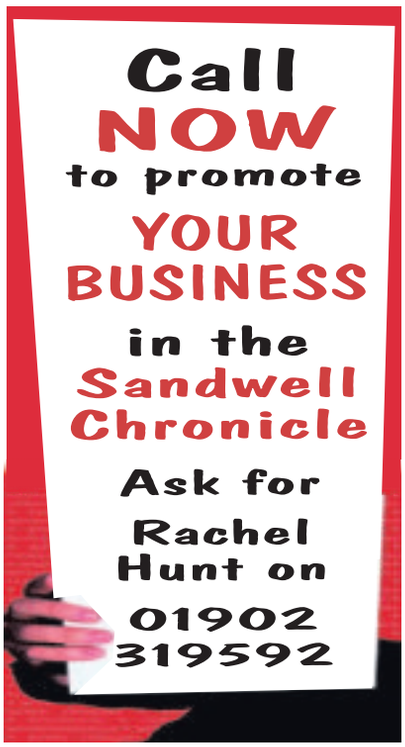
The famous cellists will be performing together at Cannock's Prince of Wales Theatre on Thursday, March 13, as part of a UK tour. There will be premiere duets for two cellos with piano as well as music by Vivaldi, Bach, Rachmaninov and Saint-Saëns.

The concert is at 7.30pm and tickets cost £18. Call 01543 578762 or visit www.wlct.org/cannock/theatre/

Award-winning folk duo at cafe

WINNERS of the best duo at this year's Radio2 Folk Awards, Phillip Henry and Hannah Martin, are heading to Birmingham.

They will be coming fresh from their award-winning appearance at the Royal Albert Hall to play at the Kitchen Garden Cafe in Kings Heath on March 30 at 7.30pm. Tickets are £8 in advance or £10 on the door. The West Country pair have made a fantastic leap considering that not so long ago they were found by Steve Knightley of Show of Hands, busking on Sidmouth seafront as part of the town's folk festival. Visit www.kitchengardencafe.co.uk.



What's On!

SATURDAY'S TV 1.03.14

Listings supplied by Press Association

CHOICE

Will.i.am

The Voice UK
BBC1, 7pm
The blind auditions are complete and the coaches have chosen 12 acts each. Now begins the process of whittling them down by half for the live shows – and that means the return of the battle rounds. Emma Willis and Marvin Humes host as the coaches are joined by four advisers – Scissor Sisters frontman Jake Shears, singer Katy B, award-winning rapper Tinie Tempah and Black Eyed Peas founder Dante Santiago – who give the acts the benefit of their experience, before pitting them against each other in head-to-head musical performances.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** James Martin: Home Comforts. **12.00** Football Focus. **12.45** Saturday Sportsday. **1.00** BBC News; Regional News; Weather. **1.15** Cycling. **2.45** Bargain Hunt. (R) **3.30** Escape to the Country. (R) **4.00** Final Score. **5.10** Reflex. **5.55** BBC News; Regional News; Weather.
6.15 Pointless Celebrities. Janice Long, Graham Cole and Eddie "The Eagle" Edwards take part in the unorthodox general knowledge quiz. Last in the series. (R)
7.00 The Voice UK. The battle rounds begin as the coaches enlist four advisers – Jake Shears, Katy B, Tinie Tempah and Dante Santiago – and pit their acts against each other in the sing-offs.
9.10 The National Lottery Live. Gaby Roslin reveals the results of the Lotto and the Thunderball.
9.20 Casualty. Robyn injures herself after confronting an intruder in her home, and Lily shows her softer side while treating a heavily pregnant woman in severe pain.
10.10 BBC News; Weather.
10.30 Match of the Day. Gary Lineker presents highlights of the latest Premier League clashes, which included Fulham v Chelsea at Craven Cottage; National Lottery Update.
11.45 The Football League Show. Manish Bhasin presents highlights and all the goals from today's fixtures in the Championship, League One and League Two.
1.05 Weatherview. **1.10** BBC News.

BBC2

6.00 This Is BBC Two. **6.15 Film:** Jules Verne's Rocket to the Moon. (1967) **8.10** Life on Earth. (R) **9.05** Life on Earth. (R) **10.00** Andrew Marr's The Making of Modern Britain. (R) **11.00** Fred Dibnah's Made in Britain. (R) **11.30** Great British Railway Journeys. (R) **12.00** James Martin: Home Comforts. **12.30** Talking Pictures. **1.10 Film:** The Lady Vanishes. (1938) **2.45** Final Score. **4.00** Coast. (R) **4.15** Natural World: The Real Jungle Book Bear. (R) **5.15** Restoration Home One Year On. (R)
6.15 Flog It! Paul Martin is joined by antique experts Mark Stacey and David Fletcher as they look for valuable items in Dorchester, Dorset.
7.15 Dad's Army. Jones finds himself cast adrift. (R)
7.45 The Perfect Morecambe & Wise. A selection of sketches featuring the duo.
8.15 Darcey's Ballerina Heroines. Darcey Bussell journeys from 18th-century France to 1950s America to explore the changing role of the ballerina and the challenges her predecessors faced.
9.15 QI XL. Stephen Fry hosts an extended edition of the peculiar panel quiz, with Sandi Toksvig, Bill Bailey, Susan Calman and Alan Davies answering questions on places that start with J.
10.00 Stewart Lee's Comedy Vehicle. New series. Stewart Lee explores different themes in stand-up routines.
10.30 Film: The Producers. (2005) Musical comedy, starring Matthew Broderick and Nathan Lane.
12.35 Film: Lady Caroline Lamb. (1972) **2.35** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Dino Dan. **6.10** Dino Dan. (R) **6.25** Matt Hatter Chronicles. (R) **6.45** Canimals. (R) **6.55** Canimals. (R) **7.00** Canimals. (R) **7.10** Om Nom Stories. (R) **7.15** Om Nom Stories. (R) **7.20** Sooty. (R) **7.30** Scrambled! **9.25** Dinner Date. (R) **10.20** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **11.15** ITV News; Weather. **11.25** The Crocodile Hunter Diaries. (R) **11.50** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. **12.45** The Unforgettable Frankie Howerd. (R) **1.15** Midsomer Murders. (R) **3.15 Film:** Tea with Mussolini. (1999) **5.35** Regional Programme ; Weather.**5.45** ITV News; Weather.
6.00 You've Been Framed! Best of the Best. Classic clips and Harry Hill's most surreal comments inspired by viewers' home videos, featuring everything from cute kids and crazy animals to pranks and painful accidents.
7.00 Ant & Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway. The Geordie duo target chef Gordon Ramsay with their latest stunt, Little Ant and Dec meet Mr Selfridge star Jeremy Piven and comedienne Sarah Millican is the guest announcer.
8.20 The Cube. New series. Gym instructor Chris and student Sophie hope to beat the Cube and take home the £250,000 jackpot.
9.20 The Jonathan Ross Show. The host chats to supermodel Claudia Schiffer, comedian Dara O Briain, Sex and the City actress Kristin Davis and rapper-turned-actor Ice Cube.
10.20 ITV News; Weather.
10.35 Film: Fast & Furious. (2009)
12.35 Jackpot247. **3.00** In Plain Sight. (R) **3.45** ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

6.10 The Hoobs. (R) **6.35** The Grid. **7.00** Trans World Sport. **7.55** Paralympic Winter Games – The Countdown. (R) **8.00** The Morning Line. **9.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **9.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **10.00** Frasier. (R) **10.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **11.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **11.30** How I Met Your Mother. **12.00** How I Met Your Mother. **12.30** The Simpsons. (R) **1.00** The Simpsons. (R) **1.30** Channel 4 Racing. **4.10** Come Dine with Me. (R) **4.40** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.10** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.40** Come Dine with Me. (R)
6.10 Come Dine with Me. Accountant Toni Shukla hosts the final dinner party in Birmingham. (R)
6.40 Channel 4 News.
7.05 The Restoration Man. Transforming a church in the Devon fishing port of Brixham. (R)
8.00 The Storms That Stole Christmas. The stories of those who bore the brunt of the bad weather over Christmas 2013 and the surrounding period, featuring amateur footage, eyewitness testimony and expert commentary. (R)
9.00 Hostages. Ellen must decide whether to save Duncan's life and sets out to track down his wife Nina, while Boyd sneaks into the Sanders' home in a misguided attempt to help Morgan.
10.00 Film: The Lincoln Lawyer. (2011) Premiere. Legal thriller, starring Matthew McConaughey.
12.15 Film: A History of Violence. (2005) **2.00** Boss. **3.05** Mesh: Covert. (R) **3.10** One Born Every Minute. (R) **4.05** Kirstie's Handmade Treasures. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! **9.55 Film:** Jetsons: The Movie. (1990) Children's animation, voiced by Mel Blanc. **11.25 Film:** Stuart Little 3: Call of the Wild. (2005) Children's animated adventure sequel, with the voice of Michael J Fox. **12.55 Film:** Getting Even with Dad. (1994) Family comedy, starring Macaulay Culkin and Ted Danson. **3.00 Film:** Columbo: Playback. (1975) Crime drama, with Peter Falk. **4.35 Film:** Columbo: Candidate for Crime. (1973) Detective drama, starring Peter Falk.
6.30 The NCIS Movie: Payback. Feature-length episode. The agents try to locate a serial killer, but their investigation leads to a surprising revelation. Meanwhile, McGee accompanies Abby to Mexico. (R)
9.05 5 News Weekend.
9.10 Live International Boxing. James DeGale v Gevorg Khatchikian. Mark Pougatch presents coverage of the super middleweight bout at the City Academy in Bristol.
11.10 Film: Pistol Whipped. (2008) A former cop becomes a hitman to clear his debts, but begins to suspect his employer is hiding something from him. Action thriller, starring Steven Seagal and Lance Henriksen. Edited for language.
1.05 SuperCasino. Live interactive gaming. **3.05** Benidorm ER. (R) **4.00** Wildlife SOS. (R) **4.25** Make It Big. (R) **4.50** The Funky Valley Show. (R) **5.00** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.05** Hana's Helpline. (R) **5.20** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.25** The Funky Valley Show. (R) **5.40** Hana's Helpline. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three
7.00 Great Movie Mistakes III: Not in 3D **7.25** Doctor Who **8.10** Top Gear **9.10 Film:** I Am Number Four (2011) **10.50** Family Guy
BBC Four
7.00 Great Barrier Reef **8.00** Lost Kingdoms of South America **9.00** Salamander **10.35** What's Going On? The Life and Death of Marvin Gaye **11.35** Roll Over Beethoven – The Chess Records Saga
ITV2
2.50 Film: Kangaroo Jack (2003) **4.40 Film:** Step Up (2006) **6.55 Film:** Ocean's Thirteen (2007) **9.20 Film:** Forgetting Sarah Marshall (2008) **11.30 Film:** The Sweetest Thing (2002)
ITV3
3.55 Inspector Morse **5.55** Rosemary & Thyme **8.00** Doc Martin **9.00** Endeavour. Inspector Morse prequel, starring Shaun Evans. **11.00** A Touch of Frost
ITV4
2.40 Film: The Manchurian Candidate (1962) **5.15 Film:** Nevada Smith (1966) **7.55** Hornblower. The seafaring hero's resourcefulness turns the tide of a battle. **10.00 Film:** Schindler's List (1993)
E4
4.00 Rude(ish) Tube **5.00** The Big Bang Theory: Access All Areas **5.30** The Big Bang Theory **6.30** The Big Bang Theory: It All Started with a Big Bang **7.00** How I Met Your Mother **8.00** The Tomorrow People **9.00 Film:** Trading Places (1983) **11.20** Rude Tube: Viral Ads
Film4
3.15 Imagine That (2009) **5.20** The Phantom (1996) **7.15** Bedazzled (2000) Fantasy comedy remake, starring Brendan Fraser. **9.00** The Taking of Pelham 123 (2009) **11.05** 28 Days Later (2002)

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What's On!

SUNDAY'S TV 2.03.14

Listings supplied by Press Association

CHOICE

Kelly Hoppen

Dragons' Den
BBC2, 9pm
It's always fun to play along while watching telly, especially if you're playing "guess Peter Jones' next pun" on Dragons' Den. Here, he and fellow Dragons Duncan Bannatyne, Deborah Meaden, Kelly Hoppen and Piers Linney meet two women with an alpaca-based knitwear company, but will Peter accuse them of 'spinning a yarn', or ask them to get down to the 'knitty gritty' of their proposal? Among the other would-be entrepreneurs is the director of a London-based design company with a new take on the sticky note.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **7.40** Match of the Day. (R) **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** The Big Questions. **11.00** Sunday Politics. **12.15** MOTD2 Extra. **1.00** BBC News; Weather. **1.15** Bargain Hunt. (R) **2.15** The Indian Doctor. (R) **3.00** Flog It! **3.25** Escape to the Country. (R) **4.10** Deadly on a Mission: Pole to Pole. **4.40** Songs of Praise. **5.15** Pointless Celebrities. (R)

6.05 BBC News; Regional News; Weather.

6.30 Blandings. Clarence must prevent his brother from publishing his scandalous memoirs.

7.00 Countryfile. Matt Baker explores Elmley Marshes on the Isle of Sheppey off the coast of Kent, Ellie Harrison visits Knole House further inland and Helen Skelton is in the Wiltshire countryside. Including Weather for the Week Ahead.

8.00 Call the Midwife. A new mum and her baby go missing, Jenny begins to see cracks in the establishment while on secondment, and Chummy discovers her mother has walked out on her father.

9.00 The Musketeers. The swordsmen help a young mother rescue her kidnapped baby son, while the king is reluctantly reunited with his scheming mother Marie de Medici.

10.00 BBC News; Weather.

10.25 Match of the Day 2. Including highlights of Swansea City v Crystal Palace.

11.30 The League Cup Show. Manchester City v Sunderland.

12.10 Weatherview. **12.15** BBC News.

BBC2

6.00 This Is BBC Two. **6.10 Film:** School for Scoundrels. (1960) **7.40** Monty Don's Italian Gardens. (R) **8.40** Countryfile. (R) **9.40** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **11.10** James Martin: Home Comforts. (R) **11.55** Michel Roux's Service. (R) **12.55** Michel Roux's Service. (R) **1.55 Film:** Vertigo. (1958) **4.00** Cycling. **5.35** Giant Squid: Filming the Impossible – Natural World Special. (R)

6.20 Film: Invincible. (2006) Fact-based sporting drama about an American football fan given the chance to play for the team he has supported all his life. With Mark Wahlberg, Greg Kinnear and Elizabeth Banks.

8.00 Top Gear. Richard Hammond drives the Porsche 918 Spyder and Jeremy Clarkson creates a public information film with James May to promote safer cycling. With Breaking Bad star Aaron Paul.

9.00 Dragons' Den. A London-based entrepreneur pitches a new take on the sticky note, and two women bring a pair of alpacas as they try to gain funds for their knitwear business. Last in the series.

10.00 Mock the Week Looks Back at Science and Technology. Another themed selection from the show's archives. (R)

10.30 Line of Duty. Denton reveals a high-ranking officer has a motive for framing her. (R)

11.30 Film: The Mission. (1986) Historical drama, with Robert De Niro and Jeremy Irons.

1.30 Sign Zone: Countryfile. (R) **2.25** Holby City. (R) **3.25** Silk. (R) **4.25** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Dino Dan. **6.10** Dino Dan. (R) **6.25** Matt Hatter Chronicles. (R) **6.45** Canimals. (R) **6.55** Canimals. (R) **7.00** Canimals. (R) **7.10** Om Nom Stories. (R) **7.15** Om Nom Stories. (R) **7.20** Sooty. (R) **7.30** Scrambled! **9.25** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **10.25** Dickinson's Real Deal. (R) **11.25** ITV News; Weather. **11.30** River Monsters. (R) **12.30 Film:** Columbo: Death Hits the Jackpot. (1991) **2.30** The Crocodile Hunter Diaries. (R) **3.30 Film:** Diamonds Are Forever. (1971) **5.50** Regional Programme ; Weather.

6.00 ITV News; Weather.

6.15 Dancing on Ice. Phillip Schofield and Christine Bleakley host the semi-final, and the competition is sure to be intense with only three places in the final up for grabs. The results are at 8.30pm.

7.45 All Star Family Fortunes. Coronation Street special of the game show. Last in the series.

8.30 Dancing on Ice: The Skate Off. The two lowest-scoring couples compete. Last in the series.

9.00 Mr Selfridge. Following Henri's arrest and Harry's disappearance, the police visit the Selfridges' home in search of clues. Agnes receives an ominous telegram and Lady Mae faces a tough decision.

10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather.

10.15 It'll Be Alright on the Night's Best of the Worst. Compilation of clangers from the programme's history. (R)

11.15 Premiership Rugby Union.

12.15 The Store. **2.15** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. (R) **3.45** ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

6.20 The Hoobs. (R) **6.45** The Hoobs. (R) **7.10** Freesports on 4. **7.35** Arenacross. **8.00** FIM Superbike World Championship. **8.35** Sochi Special: Paralympic Winter Games. **9.05** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.35** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **1.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **1.30** How I Met Your Mother. **2.00** How I Met Your Mother. **2.25** The Simpsons. (R) **2.55** The Simpsons. (R) **3.20** Deal or No Deal. **4.25 Film:** Grease. (1978)

6.30 Channel 4 News.

7.00 Fish Fight: Hugh's Last Stand. Follow-up documentary in which Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall tells the story of how hundreds of thousands of people came together to bring about radical reforms to fishing policies.

8.00 Britain's Bronze Age Mummies: A Time Team Special. Tony Robinson follows an archaeological dig on a burial ground in Northumberland and investigates other finds that are changing people's understanding of the Bronze Age.

9.00 Film: Salt. (2010) A CIA agent goes on the run after she is accused of being a sleeper assassin sent to murder the Russian president. Action thriller, starring Angelina Jolie and Liev Schreiber.

11.00 Film: Predator. (1987) A military team on a mission in a Central American jungle encounters a merciless alien hunter in search of human prey. Sci-fi thriller, with Arnold Schwarzenegger.

1.00 Film: The Fountain. (2006)
2.35 One Born Every Minute. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake!: Peppa Pig. **6.05** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **6.15** Fifi and the Flowertots. (R) **6.25** Bubble Guppies. (R) **6.40** The Mr Men Show. (R) **6.50** Chloe's Closet. (R) **7.00** Roobarb and Custard Too. (R) **7.10** Bananas in Pyjamas. (R) **7.25** Make Way for Noddy. (R) **7.35** City of Friends. (R) **7.45** Toby's Travelling Circus. (R) **7.55** Little Princess. (R) **8.10** The Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky. (R) **8.25** Angelina Ballerina. (R) **8.35** Mio Mao. (R) **8.45** Rupert Bear. (R) **9.00** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.15** Jelly Jamm. (R) **9.30** LazyTown. (R) **10.00** Power Rangers Super Samurai. (R) **10.35** Power Rangers Megaforce. (R) **11.05** Access. **11.10** Road Terror: Caught on Camera. (R) **11.50** The Hotel Inspector. (R) **12.50** Ice Road Truckers. (R) **1.50** Police Interceptors. (R) **2.50 Film:** Beetlejuice. (1988) **4.40 Film:** Zathura: A Space Adventure. (2005)

6.35 Film: The Fifth Element. (1997) Sci-fi adventure, starring Bruce Willis.

8.55 5 News Weekend.

9.00 Film: Erin Brockovich. (2000) A single mother goes to work at a law firm and ends up taking on a company suspected of contaminating a small town's water. Fact-based drama, with Julia Roberts and Albert Finney.

11.45 Film: The Fog. (2005) Horror remake, starring Tom Welling.

1.35 SuperCasino. **3.05** Trauma Doctors. (R) **4.00** Wildlife SOS. (R) **4.25** Make It Big. (R) **4.45** The Funky Valley Show. (R) **5.00** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.05** Hana's Helpline. (R) **5.20** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.25** The Funky Valley Show. (R) **5.40** Hana's Helpline. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three
7.00 The Voice UK **9.15** Hair **10.15** Family Guy **11.00** Bluestone 42 **11.30** American Dad!

BBC Four
7.00 Timeshift: The Golden Age of Coach Travel **8.00** The Fairytale Castles of King Ludwig II with Dan Cruickshank **9.00** Timewatch: Captain Cook – The Man Behind the Legend **10.00 Film:** Barbara (2012) **11.40** Timeshift: The Golden Age of Coach Travel

ITV2
2.15 Film: Step Up (2006) **4.25** Ant & Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway **5.45 Film:** The Incredible Hulk (2008) **7.55 Film:** Coyote Ugly (2000) **10.00** The Only Way Is Essex **10.50** Party Wright Around the World **11.50** The Big Reunion 2014

ITV3
2.50 Rosemary & Thyme **4.55** Lewis **6.55** Agatha Christie's Poirot **9.00** The One and Only Cilla Black **10.30** Inspector Morse

ITV4
3.05 Tim Vine's Punslinger **4.25 Film:** The Sting (1973) **7.00** Storage Wars **8.00** Premiership Rugby Union **9.00 Film:** Memphis Belle (1990) **11.10** Hell on Wheels

E4
3.00 Marvel's Agents of SHIELD **4.00** The Tomorrow People **5.00** Troy **6.00** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **6.30** The Big Bang Theory **8.00 Film:** 10 Things I Hate About You (1999) **10.00** The Big Bang Theory **10.30** My Mad Fat Diary **11.30** How I Met Your Mother

Film4
2.55 Stardust (2007) **5.20** Fantastic Mr Fox (2009) **7.05** The Death and Life of Charlie St Cloud (2010) **9.00** Sanctum (2011) **11.10** Pride and Glory (2008)

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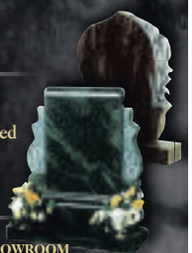

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What's On!

Film Choices

Monday
Lethal Obsession, Channel 5, 3.15pm
A woman with a troubled marriage attends a family funeral, and is reunited with her dangerously overprotective brother. He initially seems to have moved on from his past obsessive behaviour, but when people around her start disappearing, she realises he is killing anyone he disapproves of – and her husband may be next. Thriller, starring Kellie Martin and Adam MacDonald. (2007)

Mercenary for Justice, Channel 5, 11pm
A soldier for hire vows to look after the wife and son of a dead comrade-in-arms, but the family is kidnapped by a rogue CIA faction. The mercenary is forced to carry out a dangerous mission to break into a notorious South African prison and free the son of an arms dealer. Action thriller, starring Steven Seagal, Jacqueline Lord, Roger Guenveur Smith and Luke Goss. (2006)

Tuesday
Deadly Isolation, Channel 5, 3.15pm
A widow is unaware her academic husband led a double life as a jewel thief, and was once involved in the theft of $20million in diamonds. However, when his two partners in crime are released from prison, they come looking for her, believing she has the gems. Thriller, starring Sherilyn Fenn and Nicholas Lea. (2005)

World Trade Center, Wednesday, Channel 4, 12.05am

Wednesday
World Trade Center, Channel 4, 12.05am
Fact-based drama inspired by the events of September 11. The film focuses on two police officers who were trapped in the wreckage of one of the Twin Towers while they oversaw the evacuation, and examines the effects of the tragic incident on their families. Directed by Oliver Stone and starring Nicolas Cage, Maria Bello, Michael Pena and Maggie Gyllenhaal. (2006)

Thursday
Obsession, Channel 5, 3.15pm
A woman receives a promotion at work that entails moving to a different city, so decides to end her relationship with her boyfriend and make a fresh start. However, he does not take kindly to the rejection. Thriller, starring Charisma Carpenter. (2011)

Friday
The Proposal, BBC1, 10.35pm
A Canadian publishing editor working in New York faces deportation to her own country. Desperate to stay in America, she offers her assistant a promotion if he will marry her, but an immigration official becomes suspicious and the pair are forced to go to desperate lengths to look like a happy couple. Romantic comedy, starring Sandra Bullock and Ryan Reynolds. (2009)

Pick of the Week

Everyday menus for special occasions

Mary Berry may be 78, an age when most people are concentrating on relaxing rather than reaching the peak of their career, but she's bigger and more popular than ever.

And it's all down to one little programme – The Great British Bake Off.

Nobody could have foreseen what a phenomenon that show would end up being, and how it would suddenly turn Mary into a national treasure.

Okay, so long-standing foodies were already aware of her thanks to her recipe books and earlier TV experiences, but none of those brought her the same kind of exposure as the Bake Off did.

She'll be back for a new run of that later in the year when the show moves to BBC1, but for now, she's on BBC2 again, this time presenting six-part series, in which she offers tips for nervous cooks from her own kitchen.

Mary hopes to inspire people to prepare meals for both everyday and special occasions, including meals that will appeal to every member of the family, young and old.

As ever, Mary delivers her advice in her firm but fair, gentle yet easy-to-understand way – and she likes to keep it straightforward, too.

"First of all, you have to decide what you're going to do," she says when asked for advice on what to cook for a dinner party.

"Go simple and don't try something you haven't done before. It's a good idea to have the first course and the pud chilled, and then you can concentrate on the main meal.

"I don't want anything last-minute because anything can happen. I do try to plan, because I want to be with my guests. It's all about them, and they don't want to see you stressed.

And if you're in the kitchen cooking with them, they can watch you, and people like that."

Unlike some TV chefs, she doesn't like to bombard viewers with ingredients they may never have heard of: "It's very important that the recipes work and contain ingredients that everybody can buy from their local supermarkets." Amen to that!

She kicks off the series by offering ideas for a traditional tea party. You'll certainly never look at sandwiches in the same way again, and will be rushing out to buy the ingredients to make Mary's mouth-watering bite-sized scones too.

Her granddaughters also make a guest appearance while helping her make orange butterfly cakes.

As for Mary's dream guests, who would she choose? Alongside her beloved family, she has a very special couple in mind.

"I would like to have the Duke and Duchess and Cambridge," she smiles. "I did actually meet them while working with the charity Child Bereavement UK. It would be lovely to cook for them because one day he's going to be the king of England.

"I know what they like, because they use my cookery books. I'd have to do a pudding with brandy for Katherine and William, I think, would like tallagio chicken. They are in very good shape so I wouldn't want to go too overboard!"

Mary Berry Cooks, Monday, BBC2, 8.30pm

Best of the Rest

Monday
I Never Knew That About Britain
ITV, 8pm
Author Christopher Winn loves trivia, which is why he came up with the idea for a book called I Never Knew That About England, and when it became a hit, followed it with tomes about Ireland, Scotland and Wales. Each edition featured little-known facts about each country, and went on to be the inspiration for this new, eight-part series. Paul Martin, Suzannah Lipscomb and Steve Mould investigate weird and wonderful places and people from the past, and begin with remarkable tales involving an unsung hero with connections to the Spitfire and, bizarrely, the folding buggy, the Welsh women who battled Napoleon and the chap whose experiments helped the development of pain relief.

Silk
BBC1, 9pm
Writer Peter Moffat's idea for this series was to capture the 'extreme pressure, the hard choices, the ethical dilemmas,' of life as a barrister, and the latest offering does that rather well. Martha (Maxine Peake) is assigned to defend a footballer accused of a pitch assault on another player. Considering the incident had thousands of witnesses, it seems she's finally bitten off more than she can chew. It doesn't help that her client is reluctant to cooperate and help his defence, so she must get him on side to discover a secret he's determined to keep hidden from the football world. Also this week, chambers are shocked by a resignation and Billy (Neil Stuke) takes steps to ensure Shoe Lane's future.

Tuesday
Death in Paradise
BBC1, 9pm
Emma Redding is a retired lifesaver who was due to turn up at a party, but when she doesn't show or answer her phone, it sets alarm bells ringing. Her door is forced open and she's found dead on her bed with an empty packet of sleeping pills at her side. Two key questions dominate the case: how did the alleged killer get out of her locked room, and could one of Emma's so-called friends be the prime suspect?

Wednesday
Left for Dead by the Yorkshire Ripper
Channel 5, 8pm
Be warned: this won't make for easy viewing. However, if anyone's happy putting a challenging and thought-provoking documentary about serial killers out there under an eye-catching title, it's Channel 5. This particularly harrowing film – shown, surprisingly, before the watershed – focuses on one of Britain's most notorious murderers, Peter Sutcliffe, or the Yorkshire Ripper. Over the course of his five-year reign of terror, he killed 13 women and attempted to murder eight more, and we hear from some of those survivors, who recount Sutcliffe's attacks blow-by-blow. They include Marylyn Moore, who has never told her story before on television, and Tracy Browne, who describes how, when she was a 14-year-old schoolgirl, she was attacked as she walked home.

Line of Duty
BBC2, 9pm
Thanks to its authentic police procedural action, the first series of this tense drama is one of the more compelling examples of its genre we have seen in a long while. This series has been progressing at a real pace, and tonight sees Arnott uncover evidence that a tracker had been planted on one of the vehicles in the police convoy which was ambushed. Sole survivor Lindsay Denton, meanwhile, implies that Deputy Chief Constable Dryden was embroiled in a wider conspiracy – and when a series of video recordings made by the witness while in protective custody are discovered, it's not long before the AC-12 officers begin to realise she's right – but it may be too late as she's in danger.

Line of Duty, Wednesday, BBC2, 9pm

Thursday
Coronation Street: A Moving Story
ITV, 9pm
For more than half a century, Coronation Street has captured the hearts of the nation from the same location in Manchester. However, all that has changed recently. During the past two years a new set has been built to house the Rovers Return, Dev's shop, Underworld, and all those beloved homes. Of course for many long-term residents of the Street it's been an emotional upheaval moving to a different set. Here, cameras cover the final week of filming in December 2013 at Granada Studios, and document the cast and crew's move two miles away to MediaCity UK at Salford Quays.

DIY SOS: The Big Build
BBC1, 9pm
BBC golden boy Nick Knowles is a busy man at the moment – if he's not doting on his pregnant wife ahead the birth of their baby boy in the summer, he can usually be found doling out good news in various National Lottery game shows of a Saturday evening. He's going to meet himself coming backwards one of these days, but no matter how hectic his schedule gets, he'll always have time for DIY SOS. This week, he and the team are coming to the aid of Paul Makings, whose wife died shortly after she gave birth to their sixth child.

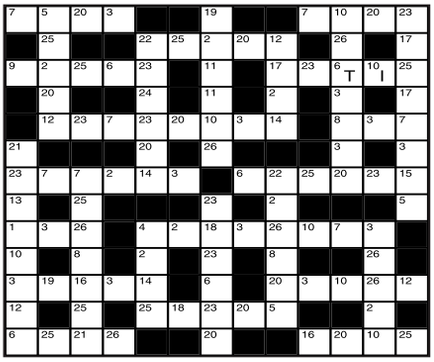
Friday
Gogglebox
Channel 4, 9pm
Okay, watching people watching telly really shouldn't be so addictive. But it is, thanks to this Big Brother-style series which has proved a hit with the nation. Whatever the reason for its likeability, bosses have thought it popular enough to bring it back for a third series, and in a Friday night primetime slot nonetheless. Narrated by Caroline Aherne, the series will feature the opinionated British households that have become so well-recognised, as well as some new faces.

Puzzler

Brain Gym No.262

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
X	F	M	N	E	H	P	D	J	R	T	W	A
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
U	I	S	G	Y	V	K	O	Z	C	Q	L	B

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

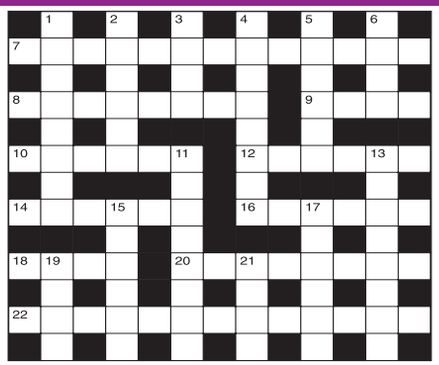
Cryptic Clues:

Across

7. Killing time officially (7,6)
8. Don't give up getting the unit back in shape (8)
9. Two-way agreement (4)
10. We arrange sale of an animal (6)
12. Stern test or transaction (6)
14. Inferior type of bangle (6)
16. Mother and son supply fruit (6)
18. It's sung in variations (4)
20. Produce green tea, perhaps (8)
22. Arrogant description of Everest? (4,3,6)

Down

1. The Poles are, but not the N. and S. ones (8)
2. Expresses conditions (6)
3. Soon unknown (4)
4. New radio set of astronomical importance (8)
5. I dread to be attacked (6)
6. A wooden trunk (4)
11. Man in a suit (8)
13. A top seat for a renegade (8)
15. Heartily dislike a hotel under reconstruction (6)
17. An illusion of heat (6)
19. It flies or takes a train (4)
21. Possibly mean to call (4)



Quick Clues:

Across

7. Absolutely necessary (13)
8. Give out (8)
9. Space (4)
10. Fondle (6)
12. Aptitude (6)
14. Alcove (6)
16. Distant (6)
18. Fashionable (4)
20. Demonstrative (8)
22. Impartial (13)

Down

1. Point out (8)
2. Uncomplicated (6)
3. Frank (4)
4. Forefather (8)
5. Cask (6)
6. Too (4)
11. Uneasy uncertainty (8)
13. Birth of Christ (8)
15. Get free (6)
17. Meditation (6)
19. Greet (4)
21. Just (4)

Sudoku

6				1				4
	4			6	2		5	
			4		3			6
8		4		3		2		7
		3				8		
7		2		5		6		1
2			9		1		6	
	8			2			7	
3			6					2

Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

8	6	3	5	1	2	4	9	7
9	5	2	8	4	7	6	1	3
1	4	7	6	9	3	2	8	5
2	9	5	3	6	1	8	7	4
6	8	4	2	7	9	5	3	1
7	3	1	4	5	8	9	2	6
3	2	6	1	8	4	7	5	9
4	7	8	9	3	5	1	6	2
5	1	9	7	2	6	3	4	8

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Stud; 8 Infallible; 9 Attended; 10 Ends; 12 Yearly; 14 Eat out; 15 Miller; 17 Stroll; 18 Left; 19 Contract; 21 Man of parts; 22 Hang. Down: 2 Toe the line; 3 Dime; 4 Off day; 5 Pledge; 6 Director; 7 Pews; 11 Double chin; 13 Relation; 16 Recipe; 17 Sundry; 18 Lima; 20 Rush. QUICK - Across: 1 Lass; 8 Triumphant; 9 Complete; 10 Seep; 12 Artist; 14 Evince; 15 Static; 17 Treble; 18 Scar; 19 Maneater; 21 Felicitous; 22 Over. Down: 2 Autocratic; 3 Stop; 4 Divest; 5 Impede; 6 Chastise; 7 Step; 11 Excellence; 13 Intermix; 16 Commit; 17 Tendon; 18 Sift; 20 Also.

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Money matters – Aaron Sheldon, owner of Bowjangles, pictured outside the successful store in Wednesbury

Helping to make your money jangle further

BOWJANGLES, based in Wednesbury, is one of the the Black Country's and Birmingham's leading precious metal dealers to the public.

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The company now deal in all currencies, including euros, US dollars Turkish lira and the list goes on.

Bowjangles wants to be recognised as a place where people can visit and be rest assured that they are getting value for money.

The company understands the importance of stretching money theses days.

A few pounds difference can make a big difference to households.

Making money go further has certainly become a priority for many and Bowjangles acknowledges the need to stretch that bit further.

Special deals are available for business customers, often providing cost effective methods for business transactions.

Simply phone for daily rates, go to www.bowjanglesmidlands.co.uk or add share and like on the Facebook page. Search online for Bowjangles jewellery and currency.

Staff wish to thank all of Bowjangles customers for supporting the business over the last few years – it is appreciated.

New leisure complex

DC Leisure has been appointed to design, build, run and maintain an £11m town centre complex, due to open this summer.

The leisure complex was granted planning permission in October 2012 and will be located on the corner of Moor Street and Barton Street.

It will have a 25m pool with a learner pool, a sauna and steam room, a four-court sports hall, a 100-station fitness suite, two dance studios / activity rooms, an indoor children's adventure play centre and a café. Site hoardings have been erected and construction work is underway.

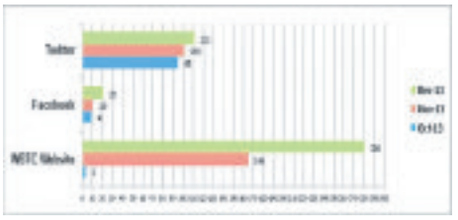
Topics are for discussion

The West Bromwich Town Centre Partnership Board has more than 23 members, including representatives from Sandwell Council, retail managers, banks, shopping centre managers, Police, Sandwell College and more.

Below are some topics discussed at the meetings:

- Updates regarding regeneration of West Bromwich
- Updates regarding Public Realm of West Bromwich
- Police updates on West Bromwich Central
- Presentations on hygiene in West Bromwich
- Environmental Health presentation
- West Bromwich Town Centre Events 2014 - Planning

Increased use of digital platforms



WEST Bromwich Town Centre website (see www.westbromwichtown.co.uk) has seen an increase in traffic of over a third since November.

It's social media sites are also on the increase, with visits to www.facebook.com/pageWest Bromwich-Town doubling between November and December last year.

www.twitter.co.uk/@WestBromwichTC saw an increase of 10 per cent in the same period. For further details on the area visit the website www.linkedin.com/LisaHill

There are now 50 members of the West Bromwich Town Centre Membership Scheme. If you would like to find out about joining the scheme please contact Lisa Hill on 07966 086750.

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A Charity Evening with..... Dayton
Dayton has been involved in music for the last 20 years. He grew up in the church where his love for music developed, in particular a deep rooted love for Gospel and soul music. Dayton re-launched his solo career about 10 months ago, during which time Dayton supported the GAP Centre first Charity Ball back in October 2013, and has agreed to come back to support our charity. An evening not to be missed.
Tickets £8.50
Including admission and food
Raffle tickets on sale on the evening
Raising funds for The Gap Centre Relocation Project
Saturday, 15th March 2014 Doors open 7pm
At: The Gap Centre, Hargate Lane, West Bromwich B71 1PH
For more information or tickets contact Wendy on
0121 525 4442

All-new facilities at Queens Square

Public toilets at Queens Square Shopping Centre near completion

The new entrance to the gents toilets with its contemporary design

DESPITE the bad weather, the refurbishment programme at Queens Square Shopping Centre is continuing to gather pace as the construction team work hard to make way for a brand new Queens Square for 2014.

While the majority of work is taking place behind closed doors, there are already clear signs of progress. The final touches were made to the public toilets and disabled / baby change facilities and are now open to mark the new state-of-the-art amenities at the centre.

Changes

Additionally, refurbishment works are progressing well, with parts of the mall showing great changes over the past few months.

The safety scaffolding is starting to come down in Mall 4 (towards the high street) to reveal the first signs of things to come for the whole new revitalised centre, including the introduction of more natural light in the malls with the reveal of glazed roof openings and modern décor.

These improvements are being made across the whole centre, with 80 per cent of the sky lights now being in place and the construction of the brand new glazed entrance to mall 1 (towards the new arts college campus).

During the enhancement works, Queens Square remains open to shoppers as usual.

Melvin Glasby, Dr Sarindar Sahota and colleagues at the cheque presentation

Children's ward donation is very much appreciated

QUEENS Square Shopping Centre has been making wishes come true at Sandwell General Hospital, with a donation of £500 to support a much needed project for the children's ward.

The donation, raised through the centre's 'Make a Wish' Christmas campaign, will go towards the construction of an outdoor sensory playground which, once finished, will benefit around 300 young children with physical or learning difficulties.

"There are many demands on NHS funds, so as a charity we have to ensure that whatever we do has the greatest benefit for the children," says Dr Sarindar Sahota, non-executive director of Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospital NHS Trust (SWBH) and chair of the trust's charitable funds committee.

"The sensory playground will ensure our younger patients have somewhere to go during the time they spend here.

"It is important that we make each visit as positive as possible."

The donation is the start of a flourishing relationship between Queens Square and the hospital, as centre manager Melvin Glasby is keen to help out further to ensure it reaches its goal.

"The 2013 'Make a Wish' campaign was our first official fundraising activity for the hospital and we look forward to ways of supporting the charity in 2014 and beyond," says Melvin. "We're delighted to contribute to this very special project."

Latest offers at QUEENS SQUARE

H.SAMUEL THE JEWELLER
Make sure you join the H. Samuel team from **Thursday 27th February- Saturday 1st March** for their annual wedding event!
RECEIVE 10% OFF ANY WEDDING JEWELLERY
as well as gaining lots of inspiration for your big day!

GAME
5 for £20
on all pre-owned games!
Trade in your mobiles and tablets and **receive 25% extra** on top as store credit towards your next purchase in store.

4 SIGHT
25% off any frames over £79.99, and receive a **2nd free pair** of the same value.
25% DISCOUNT FOR STUDENTS AND THE OVER 60'S!

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The **buy one get one half price** event is back in store!
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Call 0121 553 6356 or
email: westbrom@talk-o2.com

Boots
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and a huge range of fragrance – visit Boots for No.7 and top brands!

queens square shopping centre

For terms and conditions and end dates, please contact individual stores directly

Find us on Queens-Square-Shopping-Centre Follow us on @queenssquaresc www.queenssquaresc.co.uk

Investing £7million in the future of retailing

Phase one of the shopping centre refurbishment will finish soon

REFURBISHMENT works to the shopping centre is now under way, including the creation of a new entrance from the High Street.

The refurbishment work will improve the malls, toilets and create new rest room facilities.

Nearly £7 million, including a £3 million contribution by Sandwell Council, is being invested on improving the shopping centre in the future. The first phase of work will be completed during 2014, complementing an escalator connection to New Square.

Metro Plaza is the subject of public realm improvements

An artist's impression of how the Metro Plaza may finally look

WORK to upgrade Duchess/ Princess Parade with new high quality paving, seating, bins, lighting and trees, completed in December.

The next phase in the Public Realm project is Metro Plaza.

This scheme will improve pedestrian connections between the bus/metro stations and the town centre, and create a more welcoming space for people visiting by public transport. Work started in November 2013 to narrow the Ringway road, and to fill in the subway. Completion is due in summer.

Restoration work to Dartmouth Park is near completion

APPROXIMATELY £6.3million is being spent on restoring Dartmouth Park.

The showpiece Victorian park sits on the doorstep of the town centre providing visitors and residents with quality green space.

Work at the park got under way in late 2009 and has seen the installation of an outdoor gym completed late 2010 and the restoration of the parks original perimeter wall, decorative railings and War Memorial in April 2011.

A new pavilion, officially opened on June 4, 2012, during a day of Jubilee celebrations, providing a café, toilets, an events room and offices for park staff.

It also features a walkway surrounding the building and a viewing tower.

A sensory garden officially opened on November 2, 2012, designed in partnership with The Friends of Dartmouth Park for visually impaired. In addition, Mountain Bike Pump Tracks have been built at near by Sandwell Valley, which opened in May 2013. A children's water play area will open in spring, marking the end of the restoration project.

Have a say in policing matters for your area

THE current policing priorities for the West Bromwich Central neighbourhood team are:

● Reducing alcohol related offence on Carters Green

As part of Operation Holsten a number of off-licences have signed up to an initiative to reduce the sale of super strength alcohol.

The availability of strong, cheap alcohol significantly contributes to street drinking so reducing its availability greatly assist them in tackling the issue.

● Reducing theft from shops within the West Bromwich Town Centre

Operation Tinsel was conducted during the Christmas period, whereby extra resources had been drafted in to town centre.

As a result of this, there has been a 10 per cent reduction in business crime for December 2013 compared with December 2012.

This is a massive success considering the fact that there has been approximately a 40 per cent increase in the amount of retail outlets within the town centre.

Individuals can make a difference in the neighbourhood.

The West Bromwich Central policing team attends a number of community meetings each and every month.

It would encourage members of the local community to attend as this is a chance for you to have a real say on policing activity in your area.

Next meetings:

Carters Green Neighbourhood Watch – Tomorrow, 7pm to 8pm, West Bromwich Police Station, Moor Street, West Bromwich.

Sandwell Homes and Police surgery – March 3, 1pm to 2pm (for local residents only) Community Room, Kenrick House, Green Street, West Bromwich.

St Clements Neighbourhood Watch – March 4, 2pm to 3pm, St Clements House, Hallam Street, West Bromwich.

Countryside Watch Meeting – March 5, from 10.30am-11:30am, Sandwell Valley Farm, West Bromwich

Police measures are helping to improve the lives of everyone in the town

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A helpful service on your doorstep

Activities arranged by Age UK can keep the mind and body active

Happy days – Age UK can take some of the stresses away from life

The service can provide assistance for those in need of help with gardening jobs

AGE UK Sandwell Day Centre is based in Beeches Road West Bromwich.

Older people can access a wide range of care and support services:

- Day Care and Drop in lunch club
- Carer support
- Visiting and befriending
- Handy man service
- Gardening service
- Domestic help services
- Information and advice
- Insurance and trading services

For more information please call 0121 500 1860 or email info@ageuksandwell.org.uk

We also offer short breaks of up to six hours per week which are available to anyone caring for an older person in Sandwell. Care workers will call at the home of the older person you care for at a time most convenient and beneficial to you, and can offer personal care and support with domestic chores.

Once you are allocated a member of staff, the same care worker will call each week, building a rapport with your friend or relative, ensuring that you can feel confident that the care worker understands the needs of your loved one.

All you have to do is call and a member of the team will arrange everything for you. A couple of forms need to be completed to ensure the exact amount and level of care required is provided and to make sure you are happy with the service.

Care workers don't just provide care support, they also make sure all members of the team understand older people and their needs. Staff believe that whilst care support is essential for many older people it is not who they are, that they have a wealth of life experience and other needs, the understanding of which is integral to providing a good service.

Staff will take time to get to know the person they are caring for, and just like you, want to make sure the respite break offers companionship and an enjoyable experience, building trust and confidence in our care workers for both of you. The service is charged at £10 per hour. If you care for someone over 50 and would benefit from a weekly respite call from one of the team of experienced and fully trained care workers, please call the care and support services team, Wendy and Christine, on 0121 553 6217 to arrange an assessment.

A visiting and befriending service is provided for older people aged 50+ who are isolated and vulnerable, living in any of the six towns in Sandwell. The service is free and is delivered by a team of trained volunteers.

Volunteers provide support in many ways and can help with household tasks, reading the mail etc, but mostly they just provide a friendly face and a listening ear. They can visit any time on a weekly basis, to provide companionship and support to older people in the community. Each volunteer is matched to a service user to make sure that the same person will call each week and that they will have a good rapport when they meet.

Age UK looks for volunteers who know how to engage with older people and can build trust and confidence in the people they visit. All volunteers are CRB checked.

If you feel lonely, or you know someone who is isolated, and would like a volunteer to call round, please call coordinator Samantha Cannon on 0121 553 0710.

Age UK is always looking for new volunteers and if you think you can make a difference to an older persons life, then call on 0121 500 1860 and ask for an application pack. If you have a question about any of these services please call us or drop into our local office at:

Age UK Sandwell, number 15-17 Bull Street (opposite the multi story car park), West Bromwich B70 6EU. Call 0121 500 1860, email info@ageuksandwell.org.uk or see the website www.ageuksandwell.org.uk

Age UK Sandwell Handyman & Gardening

Do you need help around the home fixing the little things?

Maybe your garden needs some TLC?

Age UK Sandwell offers a reliable and trustworthy service both in and around your home.
Our Handymen can call at a time to suit you and make small repairs, put together flat pack furniture, fit security locks,painting & decorating and other general maintenance tasks.

Our gardeners can trim hedges, tidy borders and mow lawns. Services charged at £15 per hour.We are currently looking to recruit more gardeners and general handymen. If you are interested in applying please call and request an application pack.

Domestic Helpers

Do you need help around the home with general household chores?
We provide assistance with general cleaning and laundry jobs. Our Domestic Helpers can call round to your home maybe once or twice a week to help you keep your home clean and tidy (charged at £10 per hour).

Age UK Sandwell Day Care Centre offers activities for older people aged 50+ with ways to socialise and meet new people. if you have difficulty getting around this is no problem as we can offer a transport service collecting you from home and delivering you safely to your door afterwards.

Breakfast/Home cooked lunch
Physical activities e.g. chair based exercise
Quizzes and other group games
Drop in or full day care sessions
Transport may be available
Open Tuesday, Thursday & Friday
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Age UK Sandwell Drop In Lunch Club

Do you feel lonely or bored? Like to meet new people?
Are you aged 50 or over? Why not join our Drop in lunch club?
charged at £6 per session for activities and a hot homecooked lunch
Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 10.30am - 1.30pm or 12.30pm - 3.30pm
Age UK Sandwell Day Centre, 1a Beeches Road, West Bromwich

For more information, please call **Sue Bishop**
Age UK Sandwell

0121 525 2499
www.ageuksandwell.org.uk
info@ageuksandwell.org.uk
Registered charity number 1080517

Sandwell age UK

Age UK Sandwell 15-17 Bull Street, West Bromwich 0121 500 1860
www.ageuksandwell.org.uk info@ageuksandwell.org.uk

The new name for AGE Concern Sandwell

Elephant and castle have moved location

Range of homes to be built at Urban 180

Part of the Urban 180 site

LOCATED between Bull St, High St and Overend St in the town centre, the £20 million Urban 180 development will provide high quality affordable homes, office space and retail units.

As part of phase one, 29 properties, are now complete, providing affordable two, three and four-bed homes and apartments.

Demolition of the Shalimar building on the corner of High St/Bull St has started and will be demolished by March. Construction of phase two properties is now underway which will provide a further 40 dwellings.

A well known West Bromwich statue has been restored and unveiled in its new location. The 'I am the King of the Castle' statue previously sat outside Queen's Square Shopping Centre in West Bromwich High Street.

However, due to improvements to the shopping centre's entrance, the statue has been looking for a new home since being removed in October 2012. Following its removal, Sandwell Council asked people to suggest a new home for the statue. Dozens of ideas were received and the statue has now been restored and relocated to Duchess Parade in West Bromwich town centre.

Sandwell Council used the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) to pay for the statue to be restored and relocated as part of its commitment to improve public spaces within the borough.

In the last year work has taken place to lay new paving, install benches, street lighting, trees and refurbish the market stalls along Duchess and Princess Parade.

Councillor Ian Jones, Sandwell's cabinet member for jobs and economy said: "The statue now takes pride of place at the entrance to the new look Duchess Parade, welcoming visitors to the busy High Street and Market Place.

"The council is committed to improving the appearance of public spaces within the borough to attract visitors and investors."

Unveiled

The statue, which depicts an elephant with a castle on its back, containing a lion, was created by artist Laura Ford and was originally unveiled by councillor C R Davis on January 30, 1990.

Sculptor, Laura Ford, intended her design to be a humorous heraldic representation of Britain's imperial past as it was going to be situated close to Kings Square, Queens Square, Princess Parade and Duchess Parade.

In July, 2012, Councillor Derek Rowley, appealed to find the 'interesting piece of art' a new home.

Community groups and charities were asked for thoughts on its relocation at that time.

Councillor Ian Jones, Sandwell's cabinet member for jobs and economy, with the relocated statue

New HQ will include the capacity for a staff of 500

Building is under way

ON November 30, 2012, West Bromwich Building Society announced plans to relocate their head quarters from West Bromwich High Street to Providence Place.

The new headquarters will accommodate 500 staff and the most up to date technology for such a financial services company.

It stands to add to the revitalisation of West Bromwich.

Ground preparations started in December 2013, and the building is expected to be complete by early 2015.

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The British Hardware Federation Retailer of the Year 2014 is All Seasons DIY.

Based in Smethwick in the West Midlands, All Seasons DIY is a well-established retail business that opened in 1975, selling mainly housewares and DIY.

Over the years, the business has expanded to include many more ranges, including paint, decorating and now incorporates strong Seasonal trends; specialising in Gardening, Christmas, Valentines, Mother's Day and some highly specialised ethnic special occasions.

The shop has been expanded several times over the years to accommodate the additional products being sold. This is a strong family business, that is loved by the local community, with an excellent reputation and a passion for sourcing quality goods at down to earth prices.

Surinder Josan, the owner of All Seasons DIY, supports his trade association by sitting both on the British Hardware Federation Committee and the British Independent Retailers Association (bira) Board of Management. Alan Hawkins, CEO of British Independent Retailers Association, said, "All Seasons DIY is the perfect name for this store because its appearance changes dramatically depending on the time of year. At Christmas you'll find a fantastic Santa's Grotto in store and Spring sees this family run business almost turn into a garden centre.

Surinder has a range of stock that is rival to some of the multiple hardware retailers, despite his independent store being considerably smaller. It is a worthy winner of the British Hardware Federation Retailer of the Year Award."

In the market for a brighter future

Stallholders and shoppers alike will benefit from the changes being implemented

Ongoing updates to the market will result in a fresh retail experience

The temporary disruption for traders will soon be a thing of the past

A bright trading future is the aim of the redesigned market, adapted by other towns

ANY type of major town centre refurbishment works are sometimes regarded as, at best, a necessary inconvenience, and at worst a cause of real disruption to people's lives and livelihoods.

In West Bromwich, the council's markets service has seen the ongoing High Street refurbishment works as a real opportunity.

The current static market stalls have been situated on Princess and Duchess Parades for nearly a decade. They replaced old demountable aluminium stalls which were erected and dismantled on a daily basis. How many people remember walking down the High Street with stall bars rattling and candy striped canopies flapping around in the wind?

These stalls had undoubtedly come to the end of their working life, and the task was set to provide stalls which met and indeed exceeded the needs of the modern market trader.

The resultant static stalls were solid, incorporated lighting and guttering, and best of all an innovative, unique folding table design which enabled traders to have either a walk in stall, a stall with a half size table or a full width table. They were offset in the High Street to fit in with the existing pedestrianised scheme, and were well received by traders and other market operators alike, to the extent that their design characteristics were subsequently emulated by other market operators across the country.

To enable the works to take place, a number of basic but functional temporary stalls were provided on the central portion of the High Street, enabling the static stalls to be dismantled and removed at appropriate times, while still enabling trading to continue.

While off site, the static stalls were refurbished and their design amended, and they have now all been re-installed in their new position.

So look past the current disruption, continue to enjoy the quality, service, and value brought to you by your local market, and look forward to a bright trading future for the town centre.

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For more details of any of Sandwell Markets including trading opportunities available, contact the Market Manager on 0121 553 3074 or email Contact_Markets@sandwell.gov.uk
Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council
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Answer: .....
Question 2) Whose telephone number ends 009
Answer: .....
Question 3) Which advertiser is giving away Kitchen Worktops from £5
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Question 4) Whose telephone number ends in 2331
Answer: .....

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Terms & Conditions: Entrants must be aged 18 or over. Closing date for entries is Friday 14th March. The winner will be notified by post. The first correct entry opened after closing date will receive the prize. There is no cash alternative to the prize. Employees (or their immediate relatives) of the Express & Star and associated companies may NOT enter. The Editor's decision is final. The winner must be prepared to take part in any relevant publicity.

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MUSIC

An Eden better bet for the Christmas No1 slot

ROCK band East of Eden are so confident that they will go from obscurity to the top of the charts by the end of this year that they have bet £100 on themselves to be the Christmas number one.

The group, who were raised in Birmingham and now record in Wolverhampton, were given odds of 100 to one by bookmakers Coral.

Should they succeed they will split their £10,000 prize between the Birmingham Children's Hospital and Teenage Cancer Trust.

Singer Tom Harris, aged 17, said: "We believe we can do it. We wouldn't be doing this if we didn't believe in ourselves.

Special

"The Birmingham Children' s Hospital is a local charity and we want to do something special and give something back to the community we grew up in."

After refining its skills over the last three years, the band believes the public are ready to embrace live music rather than manufactured pop.

Lead guitarist Dan Brember, aged 19, said: "We want to show young people that you don't have to sell your soul to the X Factor, you can do it the hard way. We really want to introduce live music to a young audience."

The three-piece, who cite classic rock bands Led Zeppelin and Black Sabbath amongst their influences, aim to play to 100,000 people this year, performing at schools, universities, music clubs and festivals. Fans will be able to track the band's progress on the official East of Eden website, which will keep track of how many people they have played to and count down the days until the Christmas number one is announced.

Bass player Luke Bradley, 18, said: "So far things are going as well as they could. We're playing all over the country and everyone seems really into it."

The group has a backlog of singles that they will release throughout the year to raise their profile. Their first single is a rock cover of Michael Jackson's Dirty Diana, recorded with Wolverhampton producer Gavin Monoghan, who has previously worked with Robert Plant and Paolo Nutini. A tour will be announced soon.

Details due to be announced of a UK tour for East of Eden

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Admissions Appeals Panel

Walsall & Sandwell Academies would welcome applications from members of the local community to join their Admissions Appeal Panels.

Both schools are oversubscribed each year and the Panels will hear appeals in May (for applications to join Year 7) and at various other times throughout the year as and when required for in-year admissions appeals.

For further information please call:
Walsall Academy - Mrs S Turnbull 01922 493910 or
Sandwell Academy - Mrs J Purcell 0121 525 1700

If you wish to join one or both Panels please apply by letter to:

Miss V Evans
Head
Walsall Academy
Lichfield Road
Bloxwich
WS3 3LX

and/or

Mr S Topper
Head
Sandwell Academy
Halfords Lane
West Bromwich
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CLUB NEWS

Wonderful to see the happy faces

TRYSULL/SEISDON WI

OUR speaker for the evening was Bill Fearnehough, who had come to tell us about Operation Christmas Child.

It is the world's largest children's Christmas project. Each year shoeboxes are filled with gifts and sent to needy children overseas. Last year 4,600 boxes were sent from Wolverhampton to Rumania.

In the UK alone, around 918,000 boxes were delivered to children in Eastern Europe, and almost 10 million were sent out globally.

Bill showed us a short video of a school in England who had wrapped shoeboxes in Christmas paper, filled them with presents and a photograph of their class, and then sent them abroad.

The film followed the boxes to their destination and we saw the joy on the faces of the boys and girls as they opened them.

A look ahead to some events planned for this year. On March 19 we are invited to tour round the Beacon Centre for the Blind. The visit will include lunch in their canteen. On August 6 we are going to have a Steam and Cream tea on the Churnett Valley railway, which travels through beautiful countryside, known as Staffordshire's Little Switzerland.

Our next meeting is March13 at the village hall, Trysull, at 7.30pm. Ian Rigby will be talking about halcyon enamels. The competition is a collectable box.

Speaker's spotlight on work for charity

W'TON WOMEN'S LUNCHEON CLUB

THE club held its monthly luncheon at The Lindens, Wolverhampton with 64 present including two new members.

The speaker, Mr Jerry Hobbs spoke about the charities he works for now that he is retired.

The AGM followed the talk. Reports were given by the chairman, secretary and treasurer and these were approved and seconded.

The chairman thanked the club for the support given to her over the last year and presented gifts to the three retiring committee members. The new chairman, Mrs Susan Farnath was then invested with the badge of office.

She told members there were two new committee members and asked that the committee be accepted en bloc and this was agreed.

At this week's meeting the speaker was Natasha Roderick-Jones who talked about 'he Energy Exchange.

Looking back to start of the tram

K'WINSFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

DR Paul Collins was the speaker at the February meeting, his subject being By Tram from Dudley.

He recounted the story of the beginning of local trams. This was the first meeting in 2014 and new members and visitors would be welcomed at the Community Centre, High Street, Kingswinford.

Meetings are usually on the first Monday in the month, the next on Monday at 7.30pm when the speaker will be Max Keenwith the History of Dudley Castle.

Busy start to year and lots to come

CODSALL 'M' TG

THIS year is already proving to be a very busy one for Codsall 'M' TG.

We started off in January with a social afternoon in aid of the Macro Anophthalmic Children's Society and the Alzheimer's Cafe. More than £300 was raised.

On February 1 we joined in the celebrations for Codsall Village Hall's 50th Anniversary. There was a stall showing all of Codsall TG's activities. Several outings, lunches and events are already planned for the year ahead .

Focus on amateur videos

WEST BROMWICH TG

THE February meeting of the West Bromwich Central Townswomen's Guild proved to be a most entertaining afternoon.

After the usual business preliminaries, the chairman, Mrs Joyce Brown, welcomed Mrs Maureen Cooper and Mr Les Hickman who are long-time members of the Wulfrun Camcorder Club. They explained that this was an association of dedicated enthusiasts who meet once a week to view their latest amateur video offerings.

The guild was shown a wide variety of short films taken by members.

All members agreed that the illustrated talk had been very entertaining and thanked the presenters for braving the elements in such appalling weather.

The monthly meetings are held on the second Monday of each month at 2 pm. at Moose Hall, Woodward Street, West Bromwich. The next meeting will be the AGM on March 9.

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For the Dine and Dance option see the matinee performance before heading back to the hotel for dinner and a disco (conditions apply). Or the Saturday Night option includes a ticket for the show to see an evening performance.

Both breaks include a theatre ticket, overnight stay in a four-star outer London hotel, with full English breakfast (plus dinner for Dine and Dance options).

Pick ups points offered are Dudley, Shrewsbury, Telford, Walsall and Wolverhampton.

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Commercial feature

Property

West Bromwich welcomes exclusive homes from highly regarded developer

KIER Partnership Homes is delighted to announce the opening of the new sales centre at Golden Park – its exciting new development of one, two, three, four and five-bed homes off Claypit Lane in West Bromwich.

The sales centre is now open so why not pop in and meet the sales team, who will be delighted to tell you all about the beautiful new homes and local area.

Built to Kier's exacting standards, with careful attention to detail, each new home at Golden Park offers the very best in low maintenance living. designer-inspired kitchens include integrated appliances as standard, and the master bedrooms all benefit from fitted wardrobes and en suites. Golden Park has a home to suit every family size, including the one-bedroom Poppy, a delightful detached coach house with large garage and storage on the ground floor and spacious living accommodation upstairs.

Deposit

The pretty two-bedroom Lavender with good size kitchen diner, large lounge with patio doors and two well-proportioned upstairs bedrooms, one en suite; and the three-bedroom Bluebell comprising a large lounge diner and beautifully fitted kitchen, plus a spacious master bedroom suite above an integrated garage.

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The Golden Park sales office is open Thursday to Monday from 9:30am to 4:30pm.

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QUINTON LANE, QUINTON

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WHITE ROAD, QUINTON

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£275,000 Ref: D1406

NARROW LANE, HALESOWEN

EXTENDED & well presented DETACHED home with driveway & GARAGE. 14ft lounge & 19ft kitchen diner. ALSO a 2nd lounge & study. Having UPVC conservatory, utility room & d/s WC. REFITTED family bathroom & 3 bedrooms. UPVC DG & gas central heating. Lawn rear garden with patio area. EPC rating: D Ref: D1400

£209,950 Ref: D1400

FOREST ROAD, OLDBURY

SUPERB home with GARAGE & generous sized lawn garden to rear. 2 reception rooms, REFITTED kitchen & rear verandah. REFITTED bathroom & 3 bedrooms on 1st floor. BLOCKPAVED driveway leading to garage at front. UPVC DG & gas central heating fitted. EPC rating: D Ref: D1401

£189,950 Ref: D1401

FAIRMILE ROAD, HALESOWEN

DELIGHTFUL semi-detached bungalow with GARAGE & driveway. 18ft lounge, 9ft kitchen & sun room to rear. 2 DOUBLE bedrooms & bathroom with modern white suite. UPVC DG & gas central heating fitted. Gardens to front & rear. Good road for bus services/routes. EPC rating: C Ref: D1398

£149,950 Ref: D1398

MILCOTE ROAD, BEARWOOD

WELL PRESENTED end terraced home with d/s bathroom & UPSTAIRS shower room. 2 reception rooms & 13ft kitchen. 3 bedrooms on first floor. Gardens to front & rear. Gas central heating & majority UPVC DG. CLOSE TO BEARWOOD HIGH ST, WARLEY WOODS & LIGHTWOODS PARK. EPC rating: F Ref: D1351

£148,950 Ref: D1351

BROMSGROVE ROAD, HALESOWEN

Spacious DOUBLE FRONTED Victorian style home. NO UPWARD CHAIN. 2 reception rooms, cellar, kitchen. 3 bedrooms & REFITTED bathroom with separate shower. Charming cottage style mature rear garden. Gas C/H and UPVC D/G. EPC rating: E Ref: D1403

£129,950 Ref: D1403

FREDERICK ROAD, OLDBURY

IMMACULATE terraced home in a quiet road with unrestricted on-road parking. REFITTED kitchen leading to dining room & separate lounge. REFITTED bathroom on 1st floor with white suite. 2 DOUBLE bedrooms with independent access. Gas central heating & majority UPVC DG. Lawn rear garden. EPC rating: D Ref: D1402

£124,950 Ref: D1402

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SPACIOUS 1st floor apartment with ALLOCATED PARKING. 17ft lounge diner & FITTED 10ft kitchen. 2 DOUBLE bedrooms & a box room. Bathroom with shower cubicle also. Gas central heating & UPVC double glazing. NO UPWARD CHAIN. EPC rating: C Ref: D1376

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NEW — OLDBURY

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REDUCED — OLDBURY

HARBORNE ROAD
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TIVIDALE

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Traditional semi-detached house offering good sized accommodation. Entrance hall, lounge, dining kitchen, pantry cupboard, side utility, two double bedrooms, bathroom. Off road parking and large rear garden. EPC Rating D
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- Double Glazed Conservatory
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- Bathroom
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Superbly Appointed Modern Style Detached, In Excellent Order Throughout, Offering No Upward Chain, Internal Inspection Highly Recommended. EPC - D
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing
- Spacious Lounge, Separate Dining Room
- Fitted Kitchen, Downstairs W/C
- Double Glazed Conservatory
- Three Bedrooms
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- Gardens, Garage With Driveway

Offers In The Region Of £225,000

Elsma Road, Oldbury
Excellent Opportunity To Acquire This Spacious Well Presented Traditional Style Semi, Most Popular Residential Location, EPC - D
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing
- Lounge, Separate Dining Room
- Fitted Kitchen, Conservatory
- Three Bedrooms, Bathroom
- Pleasant Rear Garden
- Garage with Driveway

Offers In The Region Of £215,000

Warwick Road, Oldbury
Most Charming Traditional Style Semi, Tastefully Modernised, In Excellent Order Throughout, Cul-De-Sac Location. EPC - D
- Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing
- Spacious Through Lounge/Dining Area
- Re-Fitted Kitchen
- Downstairs Shower Room
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Re-Fitted Upstairs Bathroom
- Pleasant Landscaped Rear Garden
- Block Paved Driveway

Offers In The Region Of £159,950

Westmead Drive, Oldbury
Superbly Appointed Well Maintained Semi, Situated In A Cul-De-Sac Position Within This Pleasant Residential Development, In Excellent Order Throughout. EPC - D
- Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing
- Charming Lounge With Feature Fireplace
- Fitted Dining Kitchen With Oven & Hob
- Double Glazed Conservatory
- Three Bedrooms
- Shower Room
- Garage With Concrete Print Driveway
- Pleasant Well Tended Gardens

Offers In The Region Of £148,950

NO CHAIN

Pound Road, Oldbury
Charming Two Bedroomed Semi Detached Bungalow, Situated Within This Popular Residential Developement. NO UPWARD CHAIN. EPC - D
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Two Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Gardens
- Garage, Off Road Parking

Offers In The Region Of £144,950

Causeway Green Road, Oldbury
Most Charming And Well Presented Double Fronted Semi, In Good Order Throughout, Walking Distance To Local Amenities & Local Schools. EPC- E
- Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing
- Spacious Lounge
- Double Glazed Conservatory
- Fitted Breakfast Kitchen
- Downstairs W/C
- Three Good Sized Bedrooms
- Bathroom, Off Road Parking
- Pleasant Well Tended Rear Garden

Offers In The Region Of £144,950

Mayswood Grove, Quinton
Traditional Style Semi, Cul-De-Sac Location, In Need Of Some Modernisation However Offering Excellent Potential. EPC - E
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing
- Two Reception Rooms
- Kitchen
- Three Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Rear Garden
- NO UPWARD CHAIN INVOLVED

Offers In The Region Of £129,950

Victoria Court, Halesowen
Extremely Spacious Two Bedroomed Ground Floor Flat, Set Back From the Road Within This Popular Residential Development. EPC - D
- Electric Heating
- Double Glazing
- Security Intercom
- Spacious Lounge
- Kitchen
- Two Good Sized Bedrooms
- Shower Room
- Excellent First Time Purchase

Offers In The Region Of £79,995

NEW

Brennand Road, Oldbury
Spacious Three Bedroomed Traditional Style Semi, Conveniently Situated & Within Walking Distance To Local Amenities, Good Local Schools, EPC - D
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing
- Lounge, Separate Dining Room
- Fitted Kitchen
- Three Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Gardens To Front & Rear

TO LET: £550 PCM

NEW

Rood End Road, Oldbury
Well Presented Refurbished Traditional Style Terrace, In Good Order Throughout, Easy Access To All Local Rood End Amenities, Local Schools, EPC - D
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing
- Lounge ,Separate Dining Room
- Fitted Kitchen
- Downstairs Shower Room
- Three Good Sized bedrooms
- Upstairs W/C
- Rear Garden

TO LET: £550 PCM

BUNGALOW

Johnsons Grove, Oldbury
Well Presented Refurbished Two Bedroomed Detached Bungalow In Excellent Order Throughout, Popular Residential Location. EPC - TBC
- Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing
- Storm Porch Entrance
- Lounge ,Re-Fitted Kitchen
- Double Glazed Conservatory
- Two Bedrooms
- Re-Fitted Bathroom
- Driveway Providing Off Road Parking, Pleasant Gardens

TO LET: £625 pcm

The Hawthorns, Hagley Road West
Superbly Appointed Ground Floor Flat, Situated With Easy Access To Local Amenities, Birmingham City Centre & Public Transport. EPC - F
- Electric Heating
- Double Glazing
- Security Intercom
- Entrance Hallway, Lounge
- Re-Fitted Kitchen
- Two Good Bedrooms
- Re- Fitted Bathroom

TO LET: £595 PCM

New Meeting Street, Oldbury
Luxury Modern First Floor Apartment situated in Oldbury Town Centre, easy access to local Amenities, Motorway/Rail Networks. EPC – C
- Double Glazing
- Electric Heating
- Spacious Lounge/Diner
- Open Plan Fitted Kitchen
- Two Good Bedrooms
- Bathroom, En-Suite Shower Room
- Secure Parking Behind Electric Gates

TO LET: £575 PCM

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Wednesbury
TERRACE STREET

- Extended Semi Detached House
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Family Jacuzzi Bath and Shower Room
- SORRY NO DHSS

£650 pcm

King Standing
KILBURN

- Three Bedrooms
- Kitchen with Appliances
- Large Rear Garden
- No Pets
- SORRY NO DHSS

£600 pcm

Wednesbury
ALDER ROAD

- FOUR Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Extensive Kitchen
- Large Driveway
- SORRY NO DHSS

£575 pcm

Wednesbury
GOLDBY DRIVE

- Three Bedrooms
- Guest W/C
- Master with En-Suite
- Garage
- SORRY NO DHSS

£550 pcm

Great Barr
CURBAR ROAD

- Three Bedrooms
- Semi-Detached
- Excellent Condition
- Off Road Parking
- SORRY NO DHSS

£530 pcm

West Bromwhich
HALL GREEN ROAD

- Three Bedrooms Semi Detached
- Fully Fitted Kitchen
- Court Yard Garden
- Down Stairs WC
- SORRY NO DHSS

£525 pcm

Great Barr
HARLESTON ROAD

- Semi Detached House
- Three Bedrooms
- Lounge
- Kitchen Diner
- SORRY NO DHSS

£500 pcm

Wednesbury
KIND STREET

- Two Bedroom Apartment
- Private Garden
- Fitted Kitchen
- Allocated Parking
- SORRY NO DHSS

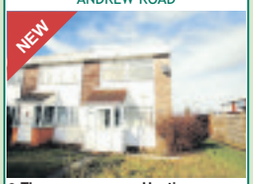
£495 pcm

Wednesbury
JOHNSON CLOSE

- Three Bedroom Semi Detached
- Large Garden
- Down Stairs Bathroom
- Recently Decorated
- SORRY NO DHSS

£495 pcm

Tipton
ANDREW ROAD



- Three Bedroom House
- End Of Terrace
- Electric Heating
- Double Glazing
- SORRY NO DHSS

£495 pcm

Wednesbury
WEDGBURY CLOSE

- Two Double Bedrooms
- Allocated Parking
- Secured
- Entrance
- First Floor
- SORRY NO DHSS

£475 pcm

Wednesbury
THE AVENUE

- Second Floor Apartment
- Two Bedrooms
- Family Bathroom
- Double Glazing
- SORRY NO DHSS

£475 pcm

Wednesbury
MYVOD ROAD

- Two Bedroom Apartment
- Double Glazing
- Fitted KItchen
- Electric Heating
- SORRY NO DHSS

£475 PCM

Darlaston
CASTLE STREET

- Two Bedroom End Terrace
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Utility Room
- DHSS ACCEPTED

£450 pcm

Willenhall
THE JUNCTION

- More properties available within block
- Two Bedrooms
- Underground Parking
- Ideal Transport Links
- SORRY NO DHSS

£450 PCM

Wednesbury
MYVOD ROAD

- One Bedrooms Ground Floor Apartment
- Electric Heating
- Off Road Parking
- Newly Refurbished
- SORRY NO DHSS

£450 PCM

Wednesbury
ADDISON TERRACE

- Ground Floor Apartment
- One Bedroom
- Lounge/Diner
- Family Bathroom
- SORRY NO DHSS

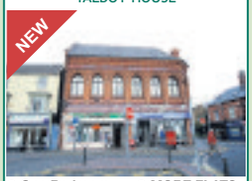
£ 425 pcm

TIPTON
DUDLEY PORT

- One Bedroom Flat
- Central Location
- Gas central Heating
- Off Road Parking
- SORRY NO DHSS

£375 pcm

Wednesbury
TALBOT HOUSE



- One Bedroom Flat
- First Floor
- Wednesbury Town Centre
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- DHSS ACCEPTED

£330 PCM

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Much-improved home in site near to woodland

AN impressive and delightfully situated three-bedroomed terraced house in Barclay Road, Bearwood, Smethwick also has a loft conversion. The much-improved home in a premier location directly facing Warley Woods, is for sale through Derek Spires at £244,950.

With gas central heating and double glazing it has three double bedrooms, a half tiled bathroom, loft conversion providing occasional fourth bedroom or games room. Call Derek Spires on 0121 4204646 or visit www.derekspiresandco.com

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REDNAL

Property comprises lounge, kitchen, downstairs bathroom, 3 Beds, Garden, Off road parking. Close to local amenities.
Rise Avenue £525 p.c.m

BILSTON

Reception porch and entrance hall/lounge/ separate dining room/kitchen/3 Beds/Family bathroom/side access/front and rear gardens.
SLIM AVENUE £395 PCM

TIPTON

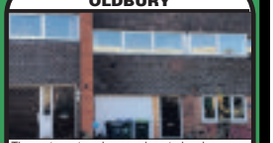
Well presented mid terrace in popular location. Ideal for first time buyer. Comprises: Hall, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, 3 Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, Rear Garden & Off Road Parking
Rowland Hill Drive £110,000

WEST BROMICH

Self contained office building. Comprises kitchen, off road parking, spacious yard area to rear, 5 offices over 2 floors together with toilet facilities. Multiple vehicle parking.
WILLIAM STREET 500 PCM

We currently offer a general maintenance Service including painting and

OLDBURY



Three storey townhouse, close to local amenities, Fitted kitchen, Living room/diner, toilet, 3 Beds and family bathroom, Garden, Off Road Parking.
Merton Close £575.00 P.C.M

GREAT BRIDGE

First floor apartment comprises entrance hall, fitted kitchen ,through lounge, bathroom and 2 double bedrooms. Communal gardens and parking.
FISHER STREET £52,950

TIPTON

Beautifully presented top floor flat comprising of: Entrance Hall, Kitchen, Lounge with Feature Fire & Balcony, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom & Separate WC. Off Road Parking.
CHURCHFIELD AVE £52,950

TIPTON

SECOND FLR. FLAT/ ENTRY SYSTEM/ OPEN PLAN LOUNGE FITTED KITCHEN/ TWO DBLE BEDS//BATH/DBLE GLAZED/ HEATING/GATED OFF RD. PARKING
TUDOR COURT £450 PCM

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Property

Detached property has views over golf course

IN one of Walsall's most sought after addresses, this four bedroom house in Stafford Road, Bloxwich, overlooks Bloxwich Golf Club.

It is for sale through Marrion & Co at £349,950.

With gas central heating and double glazing the detached home has a downstairs cloakroom, two reception rooms, a study, kitchen/breakfast area, utility, four well proportioned bedrooms, master bedroom en-suite large bathroom and main bathroom/wc. There is large landscaped garden. The kitchen has bespoke light oak units. Contact Marrion & Co on 01922 404446 or visit www.marrion.co.uk

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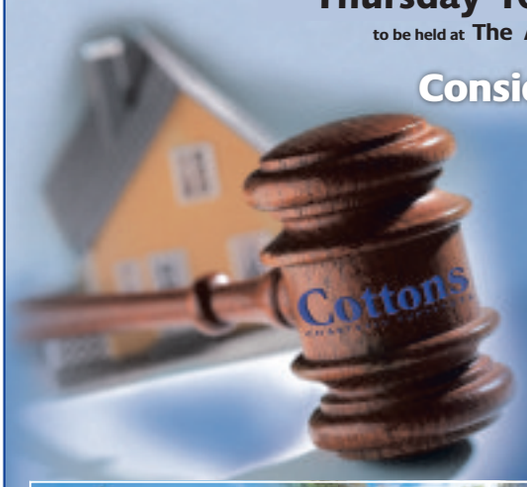

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OLDBURY

Landswood Road

A deceptively spacious, well presented, 3 bedroomed traditional style semi detached property conveniently situated within this established neighbourhood, requiring internal inspection, having gas radiator heating, majority double glazing, and briefly comprising :- Porch, entrance hall, delightful lounge, separate sitting room, breakfast area leading to kitchen, 2 double bedrooms (both with fitted wardrobes), bed 3/box room, shower room, and pleasant rear garden. VIEWING ESSENTIAL. EPC rating F. BEARWOOD OFFICE 0121 434 4345.

OFFERS AROUND £163,950

OLDBURY

Parkfield Road

An attractively presented, deceptively spacious, 3 bedroomed traditional style semi detached property occupying a pleasant position within this convenient neighbourhood, requiring internal inspection, having gas radiator heating, double glazing and briefly comprising :- Porch, entrance hall, attractive lounge, (double doors to:-) dining room, extended kitchen, 3 bedrooms, bathroom, drive providing off road parking, and pleasant good sized rear garden. VIEWING ESSENTIAL. EPC rating E. BEARWOOD OFFICE 0121 434 4345

Offers around £149,950

OLDBURY

Bromford Road

Delightfully presented, spacious, modern 2 bedroomed second floor apartment most conveniently situated for all local shopping facilities available within Oldbury Town Centre, having gas radiator heating, double glazing, approached via a communal entrance and briefly comprising :- Entrance hall (with intercom receiver), delightful spacious lounge, super fitted kitchen (having oven/hob), 2 good sized bedrooms (master with shower room en-suite), attractive bathroom, and allocated parking space. MUST BE VIEWED TO BE APPRECIATED. EPC rating C. BEARWOOD OFFICE 0121 434 4345

Offers around £119,950

QUINTON

Highfield Lane

An opportunity to acquire an extremely spacious, well presented 3 BEDROOMED ground floor maisonette conveniently situated, truly requiring internal inspection, having gas radiator heating, double glazing and briefly comprising :- Entrance hall, delightful spacious lounge, conservatory, attractive fitted breakfast kitchen (with integral oven/hob and integrated fridge and freezer), 3 GOOD SIZED BEDROOMS, attractive bathroom, PLEASANT REAR GARDEN, off road parking AND GARAGE at the front. VIEWING ESSENTIAL. EPC rating D. BEARWOOD OFFICE 0121 434 4345.

Offers around £119,950

SMETHWICK

Edward Road

Deceptively spacious, well proportioned 3 bedroomed intermediate terraced property conveniently situated, requiring internal inspection and briefly comprising :- Front reception room, rear reception room, kitchen (with oven/hob), rear vestibule area, downstairs bathroom and 3 bedrooms. Viewing essential to appreciate the property. EPC rating E. BEARWOOD OFFICE 0121 434 4345.

Offers around £94,950

OLDBURY

WAS £124,950, NOW £119,950

Poplar Avenue

A deceptively spacious, well presented 2 bedroomed intermediate terraced property occupying a pleasant position within this convenient neighbourhood, truly requiring internal inspection, having majority double glazing, gas radiator heating, and briefly comprising :- Delightful spacious through lounge/dining area, breakfast area, fitted kitchen, 2 double bedrooms, spacious bathroom, and pleasant rear garden. VIEWING ESSENTIAL. EPC rating E. BEARWOOD OFFICE 0121 434 4345

Offers around £119,950

SMETHWICK

MUST BE VIEWED

Manor Road

Deceptively spacious, well proportioned 3 bedroomed semi detached property conveniently situated, requiring internal inspection, having majority double glazing, majority radiator heating, briefly comprising :- Entrance hall, lounge, breakfast kitchen, rear vestibule (with downstairs w.c off), 3 bedrooms, bathroom, and pleasant rear garden. VIEWING ESSENTIAL. EPC rating E. BEARWOOD OFFICE 0121 434 4345.

Offers around £114,950

OLDBURY

VIEWING ESSENTIAL

Wolverhampton Road

Deceptively spacious, well presented and thoughtfully improved 3 bedroomed traditional style semi detached property conveniently situated, requiring internal inspection, having gas radiator heating, double glazing and briefly comprising :- Porch, entrance hall, delightful through lounge/dining area, fitted kitchen (with oven/hob), 3 bedrooms (bed 1 and 2 having fitted wardrobes), bathroom, and pleasant good sized rear garden with off road parking at the rear. VIEWING ESSENTIAL. EPC rating E. BEARWOOD OFFICE 0121 434 4345.

Offers around £109,950

SMETHWICK

WAS £95,000, NOW OFFERS OVER £90,000

Cheshire Road

Deceptively spacious, 3 bedroomed intermediate terraced property, conveniently situated within this established neighbourhood, requiring internal inspection and comprising :- Spacious through lounge/dining area, inner hall, kitchen, downstairs bathroom, 3 bedrooms, rear garden area. EPC rating E. BEARWOOD OFFICE 0121 434 4345.

Offers over £90,000

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An Express & Star supplement

Express & Star

Luxury kitchen among features of townhouse

AN ideal property for families, this deceptively spacious three-bedroomed terraced house with a luxury kitchen and views over playing fields in Meldon Drive, Bilston is for sale through Skitts at £112,500.

It has a porch, entrance hall, lounge with feature fireplace, dining room with wood-effect flooring, a delightful, attractive kitchen with door to the rear garden, three bedrooms, a bathroom, a block-paved driveway and private, easily maintained rear gardens. For further information contact Skitts on 0121 5051818 or visit www.skitts.net

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HALL GREEN ROAD, B71 3JS

- A Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
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COLLINS ROAD, WS10 0RZ

- A Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Central Heating
- Shared Driveway
- Freehold

£129,950

MARSH LANE, B71 2DP

- A Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Majority Double Glazing
- Conservatory
- No Upward Chain
- Freehold

£99,950

ARLINGTON ROAD, B71 1AA

- A Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms, Kitchen/Diner
- Two Reception Rooms
- Central Heating, Freehold

£179,950

CARNEGIE DRIVE, WS10 9HT

- A Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Central Heating & Double Glazed
- Driveway & Garage
- Freehold

£209,950

BUSTLEHOLME LANE, B71 3BQ

- A Detached Dormer Bungalow
- Four Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- En-suite

£295,000

MONMOUTH DRIVE, B71 2SU

- A Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Front & Rear Garden

£123,950

CRANKHALL LANE, WS10 0DZ

- A Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Driveway
- Refurbished
- Central Heating

£575 PCM £575 DEPOSIT

WYLD CLOSE, B71 2AY

- A Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Driveway
- Central Heating
- Kitchen/Diner

£575 PCM £575 DEPOSIT

BASSETT ROAD, WS10 0HH

- A Mid Terrace Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Majority Double Glazing & Central Heating
- Freehold & Driveway

£94,950

CARISBROOKE ROAD, WS10 0JB

- A Terraced Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Central Heating & Double Glazing
- Freehold, Rear Garden

£99,950

SHERIDAN STREET, B71 4EF

- A Mid Terrace Property
- Two/Three Bedroomed
- Two Reception Rooms
- Downstairs Shower Room

£99,950

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CRANKHALL LANE, WS10 0DY

- An End Terraced Property
- Two Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Freehold

£99,950

TURTON ROAD, B70 8LA

- A Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Garage And Free Hold
- No Upward Chain

£124,950

CROOKHAY LANE, B71 2NE

- A Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Central Heating
- Large Driveway
- Freehold

£127,950

MARSH LANE, B71 2DP

- A Semi Detached Property
- Two Bedrooms
- Double Glazing & Central Heating
- Off Road Parking
- Freehold

£94,950

MARSH LANE, B71 2DR

- A Mid Terraced Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Freehold

£69,950

BUSTLEHOLME LANE, B71 3AN

- A Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Central Heating And Double Glazed
- Driveway With Additional Parking

£164,950

HARRINGTON CROFT, B71 3RJ

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NEW

Pargeter Road, Bearwood

- Well Presented Terrace
- Three Double Bedrooms
- Modern Extended Kitchen
- Period Features
- No Upward Chain
- EP Rating TBC

Offers in the region of £174,950

NEW

Reginald Road, Bearwood

- Tastefully Decorated Terrace
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Delightful Kitchen & Bathroom
- No Upward Chain
- EP Rating D

Offers in the region of £119,950

NEW

Barston Road, Oldbury

- A Traditional Semi Detached
- Three Bedrooms
- No Upward Chain
- Two Reception Rooms
- Off Road Parking
- EP Rating TBC

Offers in the region of £144,950

NEW PRICE

Glaslyn Avenue, Rowley Regis

- Tastefully Presented Terrace
- Three Bedrooms
- Ground Floor WC
- En Suite Shower Room
- Allocated Parking
- EP Rating B

Offers in the region of £155,000

NEW PRICE

Park Avenue, Smethwick

- Well Presented Terrace
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Breakfast Kitchen
- Low Maintenance Garden
- No Upward Chain
- EP Rating E

Offers in the region of £85,000

NOW AVAILABLE

Bernard Road, Edgbaston

- Stunning Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Contemporary Styled Dining Kitchen
- Generously Sized Garden
- No Upward Chain
- EP Rating E

Offers in the region of £199,950

Titford Road, Oldbury

- Attractive End Terrace
- Two Reception Rooms
- Two Double Bedrooms
- EP Rating E

Offers in the region of £104,950

Eva Road, Oldbury

- Delightful Terrace Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Off Road Parking
- EP Rating: D

Offers in the region of £114,950

Beechfield Road, Smethwick

98.9% of the Asking Price Achieved!

SSTC...MORE PROPERTIES REQUIRED!

Trevanie Avenue, Quinton

97.3% of the Asking Price Achieved!

SSTC...MORE PROPERTIES REQUIRED!

Thimblemill Road, Bearwood

- A Traditional Terrace Property
- Two Reception Rooms
- Two Double Bedrooms
- EP Rating D

Offers in the region of £104,950

Herbert Road, Bearwood

97.5% of the Asking Price Achieved!

SSTC...MORE PROPERTIES REQUIRED!

Park Road, Bearwood

- Traditional End Terrace
- Three Bedrooms
- Requires Modernisation
- EP Rating F

Offers in the region of £149,950

Richmond Road, Bearwood

98% of the Asking Price Achieved!

SSTC...MORE PROPERTIES REQUIRED!

Rawlings Road, Bearwood

- Well Presented Terrace
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- EP Rating: E

Offers in the region of £119,950

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Great Bridge

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KIERS BRIDGE CLOSE
TIPTON

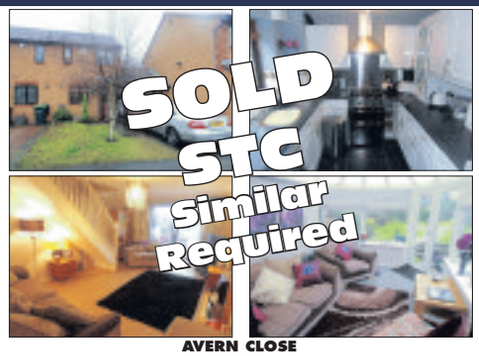
- EPC rating - tbc
- Modern Semi Detached Home
- Two bedrooms
- Kitchen / Diner
- Off Road Parking

£94,950

DAISY MEADOW
TIPTON

- Two bedroom modern semi detached home
- lounge, fitted kitchen & conservatory
- conservatory
- Double glazing & gas fired central heating (where specified)
- Garage & driveway

£114,995



AVERN CLOSE
TIPTON

- Modern two bedroom semi detached home
- Lounge, kitchen & conservatory
- Garage / store room/ dining room
- Off road psrking to front
- Rear garden

£114,995

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JONAH DRIVE
TIPTON

- EPC Rating: D
- Allocated parking
- Lounge & breakfast kitchen
- Bathroom & bedroom
- Ground floor one bedroom apartment

WAS £69,995 - Reduced to £62,995
SOLD S.T.C In ONE Day !!!!!!!

£62,995

PEAKE DRIVE
TIPTON

- EPC Rating D
- Three Bedroom Semi Detached
- Lounge
- Fitted Kitchen
- Study

£139,995

WAKE GREEN ROAD
TIPTON

EPC Rating: TBC

- Three bedroom semi detached home
- Lounge, kitchen & dining room
- Double glazing & gas fired central heating (where specified)
- Rear garden

£139,995

MAPLE LEAF ROAD
WEDNESBURY

- EPC Rating - TBC
- Two bedroom semi detached bungalow
- Lounge / fitted kitchen
- Garage, car port and driveway
- Front & rear gardens

£139,995

FARMER WAY
TIPTON

- Extended three bedroom detached home
- Lounge & Fitted kitchen
- NO UPWARD CHAIN
- Extended dining room
- EPC Rating: D
- Double glazing and gas fired central heating (where specified)
- Garage and driveway

£149,995

MYRTLE TERRACE
TIPTON

- EPC Rating D
- Three bedroom detached
- Lounge and dining room
- Kitchen diner
- Downstairs shower room

£169,995

KINSFISHER HOUSE
TIPTON

- EPC Rating B
- First floor apartment
- Lounge
- Kitchen area
- Two double bedrooms

£74,995

WESTON DRIVE
TIPTON

- EPC Rating D
- Two bedroom semi detached
- Lounge & Kitchen
- First floor family bathroom
- Garage & Off road parking

£104,995

FIELD ROAD
TIPTON

- EPC Rating D
- Three bedroom detached bungalow
- Lounge and dining room
- Kitchen and family bathroom
- Double glazing and central heating (where specified)

£139,995

GORDON DRIVE
TIPTON

- EPC Rating C
- Extended four bedroom semi detached
- Two reception rooms
- Open plan kitchen/conservatory
- Utility room

Offers Over £150,000

HEATH LANE
WEST BROMWICH

- EPC Rating: TBC
- A three bedroom semi detached house
- Lounge & Kitchen
- Double glazing & gas central heating (where specified)
- Front & rear garden

£104,995

PEEL WAY
TIVIDALE

- EPC Rating C
- Three bedroom end terrace
- Lounge/dining room
- Kitchen
- Downstairs WC

£121,995

CATHERTON CLOSE
TIPTON

- EPC Rating C
- Extended three bedroom semi detached
- Lounge/dining room
- Fitted extended kitchen
- Double glazing and gas fired central heating (where specified)

£139,995

WAKE GREEN ROAD
TIPTON

- Three bedroom semi detached
- Lounge, dining room & kitchen
- Family bathroom
- Front & rear gardens
- Garage / store room / downstairs W/C

£154,995

WOODING CRESCNT
TIPTON

- A three bedroom detached home
- Kitchen diner
- Central heating & Double glazing (where specified)
- Off road parking
- Garage

£149,995

SWANCROFT ROAD
TIPTON

- One bedroom first floor flat
- Lounge, kitchen & bathroom
- Double glazing & gas fired central heating (where specified)
- Communal parking
- EPC rating: TBC

£39,995

THELMA ROAD
TIPTON

- Two bedroom ground floor flat
- Lounge
- Fitted kitchen
- Bathroom
- Shared rear garden

£54,995

NEW STREET
TIPTON

- Three bedroom mid terrace
- Lounge / dining room
- Kitchen
- Gas fired central heating (where specified)
- Off road parking

£69,995

STANBRIDGE WAY
TIPTON

- Modern detached house
- Five/six bedrooms
- Dining room & Sitting room
- Conservatory
- Off road parking for several vehicles
- EPC rating: D

£319,995

SANDGATE ROAD
TIPTON

- Two bedroom semi detached house
- Through lounge / dining room
- Kitchen
- Off road parking
- EPC rating : D

£68,000

HAINES CLOSE
TIPTON

- Three bedroom semi detached
- Conservatory
- Lounge & dining room
- Downstairs WC
- Garage & off road parking
- EPC rating : D

£ 134,995

These are SOME of the properties we have SOLD S.T.C so far this year !!!

Prices look like they are on the up.....
We URGENTLY require more properties in:
TIPTON, WEST BROMWICH & TIVIDALE AREAS !!
If you are looking to sell please call for a FREE Valuation on: 0121 520 2255

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West Bromwich 0121 530 4240

wednesbury@skitts.net

PROPERTY OF THE WEEK

NEW

OSBORNE DRIVE
DARLASTON

- BEAUTIFUL TWO BEDROOM STARTER HOME
- RE FITTED KITCHEN AND BATHROOM
- DOUBLE GLAZING AND CENTRALLY HEATED
- QUIET CUL DE SAC LOCATION
- DESIGNATED PARKING
- VIEWING HIGHLY RECOMMENDED
- EPC: F

OFFERS £90,000

MANAGERS CHOICE

NEW

CHERRY LANE
WEDNESBURY

- IMMACULATELY PRESENTED SEMI DETACHED
- TWO DOUBLE BEDROOMS
- PRIME LOCATION IN CUL DE SAC
- CONSERVATORY
- DOUBLE GLAZING & CENTRALLY HEATED
- LANDSCAPED GARDENS
- OFF ROAD PARKING
- NO UPWARD CHAIN
- EPC: D

OFFERS £129,950

FEATURED PROPERTY

NEW

WODEN ROAD EAST
WEDNESBURY

- TWO BEDROOM DETACHED BUNGALOW
- LOUNGE, DINING ROOM AND KITCHEN OFF
- SOUGHT AFTER LOCATION
- GARAGE WITH INTEGRAL OUTBUILDINGS
- POSSIBILITY TO EXTEND/ CONVERT
- REQUIRES MODERNISATION

OFFERS £159,950

FREE MARKET APPRAISALS - Call us now on 0121 505 1818

BROOKSIDE
WEDNESBURY

- TOP FLOOR TWO BEDROOM APARTMENT
- BEAUTIFULLY PRESENTED
- MODERN KITCHEN AND BATHROOM
- FLEXIBLE ELECTRIC HEATING
- DOUBLE GLAZING
- IDEAL FIRST TIME BUY
- EPC: C

OFFERS £79,950

NEW

BAGNALLS WHARF
WEDNESBURY

- GROUND FLOOR TWO BEDROOM APARTMENT
- IMMACULATELY PRESENTED
- CLOSE TO METRO AND TOWN CENTER
- MASTER BEDROOM WITH EN SUITE
- KITCHEN WITH APPLIANCES
- NO UPWARD CHAIN
- EPC: D

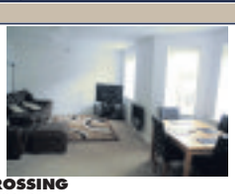
OFFERS £86,950

GRANGE ROAD
WEST BROMWICH

- LARGE TWO BEDROOM TERRACE HOME
- POTENTIAL FOR CONVERSION TO THREE BED
- TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
- LARGE DINING KITCHEN
- WALKING DISTANCE TO TOWN CENTRE
- EPC RATING: E

OFFERS £94,950

NEW



TAME CROSSING
WEDNESBURY

- LUXURY GROUND FLOOR TWO BED APARTMENT
- LARGE IMMACULATELY PRESENTED LOUNGE
- DINING AREA WITH BAY WINDOW
- FITTED KITCHEN AND EN SUITE TO MASTER BEDROOM
- ELECTRIC HEATING AND DOUBLE GLAZING
- EPC: D

OFFERS £99,950

NEW

DANGERFIELD LANE
WEDNESBURY

- THREE BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED
- LOUNGE & KITCHEN
- CAVITY WALL INSULATED
- DOUBLE GLAZING & CENTRALLY HEATED
- OFF ROAD PARKING
- EPC RATING: D

OFFERS £117,000

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WEST BROMWICH 0121 530 4240

We have waiting buyers for your home.
Competitive fees.

NEW

DENBEIGH DRIVE
WEST BROMWICH

- WELL PROPORTIONED SEMI DETACHED HOME
- THREE BEDROOMS
- LOUNGE/DINING ROOM
- CONDENSING CENTRAL HEATING
- LANDSCAPED GARDENS
- VACANT POSSESSION
- REQUIRES MODERNISATION

OFFERS £99,950

NEW

PARK STREET
WEDNESBURY

- EXTENDED FOUR BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED
- TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
- EXTENDED KITCHEN AND DOWNSTAIRS WC
- BATHROOM AND SHOWER ROOM UPSTAIRS
- MAJORITY DOUBLE GLAZING AND GAS CENTRAL HEATING
- EPC RATING: C

OFFERS £139,950

HALL GREEN ROAD
WEST BROMWICH

- FOUR BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED
- THREE RECEPTION ROOMS
- FITTED KITCHEN
- DOUBLE GLAZING AND CENTRALLY HEATED
- OFF ROAD PARKING. EPC RATING: C

£149,950

CHURCHFIELDS ROAD
WEDNESBURY

- EXTENDED FOUR BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED
- LOUNGE & DINING ROOM
- EXTENDED KITCHEN, GARAGE & DRIVEWAY
- DOUBLE GLAZED & CENTRALLY HEATED
- FRONT & REAR GARDENS. EPC RATING: E

OFFERS £149,995

KNOWLES STREET
WEDNESBURY

- DETACHED THREE BEDROOM PROPERTY
- TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
- DOWNSTAIRS CLOAK & WC
- DETACHED GARAGE
- DOUBLE GLAZING & CENTRAL HEATING

OFFERS £167, 995

PARK LANE
WEDNESBURY

- SUBSTANTIALLY EXTENDED SEMI DETACHED FAMILY HOME
- PRIME LOCATION IN LARGE GARDENS CLOSE TO GOOD SCHOOLS
- FOUR DOUBLE BEDROOMS & CONVERTED GARAGE
- TWO RECEPTIONS ROOMS & LARGE KITCHEN
- HOUSE BATHROOM (HERITAGE) & ADDITIONAL SHOWER ROOM.EPC D

OFFERS £184,950

GRAYLING CLOSE
WEDNESBURY

- MUCH IMPROVED & ENLARGED FAMILY HOME
- FOUR BEDROOMS WITH EN SUITE TO MASTER
- LOUNGE AND DINING ROOM
- CONSERVATORY AND UTILITY
- FABULOUS & SECLUDED LOCATION ADJACENT TO NATURE RESERVE

OFFERS £194,950

TAME AVENUE
WEDNESBURY

- SIX BEDROOM DETACHED FAMILY HOME
- GRANNY ANNEX AND THROUGH LOUNGE
- CONSERVATORY AND UTILITY
- DOUBLE GLAZING AND CENTRAL HEATING
- IMMACULATE THROUGHOUT

£259,950

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Traditional values, modern techniques

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NEW

5 BISSELL STREET, QUINTON

- Gas centrally heated and PVC double glazed
- Three bedrooms
- Loft room with potential for conversion, subject to planning regulations
- Lounge, dining room and fitted kitchen
- Downstairs bathroom with individual shower
- Cottage style rear garden
- INTERNAL INSPECTION TO BE APPRECIATED
- ENERGY RATING : E

OFFERS BASED ON £154,950

Viewing Bearwood Office

NEW

84 HUGH ROAD, SMETHWICK

- Three bedrooms
- Fully tiled shower room
- Through lounge/dining room
- Downstairs cloakroom
- Conservatory
- Side garage
- Off-street parking
- PVC double glazed
- Gas centrally heated
- An ideal family home
- ENERGY RATING : E

OFFERS BASED ON £155,000

Viewings Bearwood Office

NEW

49 GREENFIELD ROAD, SMETHWICK

- Gas centrally heated and PVC double glazed
- Three bedrooms
- Fully tiled bathroom
- Inter-communicating through lounge/ dining room
- Refitted kitchen
- Neatly laid out gardens to front and rear
- INTERNAL INSPECTION TO BE APPRECIATED
- ENERGY RATING : E

OFFERS BASED ON £134,950

Viewings Bearwood Office

NEW

18 ASCOT CLOSE, LADYWOOD

- Modern freehold semi-detached residence
- Spacious family accommodation
- Gas centrally heated, double glazed and alarmed
- Three bedrooms and fully tiled bathroom
- Excellent well proportioned L shaped lounge
- Fitted kitchen
- Neat laid out gardens
- Off-street parking and built in garage
- ENERGY RATING : C

OFFERS BASED ON £159,950

Viewing Bearwood Office

NEW

22 FOREST ROAD, OLDBURY

- Traditional style semi-detached
- Two double bedrooms
- Bathroom with shower & separate W.C.
- Lounge and dining room
- Off-street parking
- ENERGY RATING : E

OFFERS BASED ON £129,500

Viewing Bearwood Office

19 PERRY COURT, OLDBURY

- First floor flat off main Hagley Road West
- Electric storage heating and double glazed
- Two bedrooms
- Spacious lounge
- Allocated parking and communal gardens
- Designated for over 60s (55+ with a disability)
- Warden controlled accommodation
- ENERGY RATING : C

OFFERS BASED ON £62,500

Viewing Bearwood Office

8 RATCLIFF WALK, OLDBURY

- Modern freehold town house
- PVC double glazed
- Duct-air central heating
- Two bedrooms (readily re-convertible to 3)
- Shower room
- Spacious lounge and conservatory
- Open plan kitchen/dining room
- Neatly laid out garden
- Allocated off-street parking
- ENERGY RATING : D

OFFERS BASED ON £89,950

Viewing Bearwood Office

ASHWOOD CLOSE, OLDBURY

- Second floor flat
- PVC double glazed
- Electric storage heating
- Double bedroom
- Spacious lounge
- Allocated parking
- Ideal for first time buyers

Offers based on £65 000

Viewing Bearwood Office

31 TRINDER ROAD, SMETHWICK

- Semi-detached close to Warley Woods
- Easy access to Birmingham city centre
- Three bedrooms and fully tiled shower room
- Extended through lounge & kitchen/dining room
- Additional downstairs shower room
- Garden with SUBSTANTIAL SUMMERHOUSE
- INTERNAL INSPECTION TO BE APPRECIATED

OFFERS BASED ON £144,950

Viewing Bearwood Office

46 HALL ROAD, SMETHWICK

- Impressive rear garden
- Inspection to be appreciated
- 3 bedrooms
- Fully tiled bathroom
- Superbly presented semi
- EPC : E

Offers based on £137,500

Viewing : Bearwood Office

11 CASTLE ROAD EAST, OLDBURY

Immaculate & superbly presented semi-detached
- Individually designed family accommodation to a high specification

Sympathetically improved with many additional features
Gas centrally heated & double glazed
4 double bedrooms, master bedroom having en-suite bathroom
Refitted & well-appointed bathroom with individual shower
Charming lounge & open plan split level family/dining room
Superb dining/kitchen
Fitted cloakroom/W.C.
Laid out and easily maintained gardens
- Substantial brick built double garage/workshop

OFFERS BASED ON £305,000

Viewing Bearwood Office

52 HILLTOP ROAD, OLDBURY

- Extended semi-detached property
- Gas centrally heated & PVC double glazed
- Three bedrooms
- Superbly presented fully tiled bathroom
- Fully boarded Loft
- Hall, lounge and kitchen/dining room
- Extended rear sitting room
- Downstairs fully tiled shower room
- Neatly laid out gardens to front and rear
- Detached garage at rear
- Refurbished to a high standard
- Internal inspection to be appreciated

OFFERS BASED ON £185,000

Viewing Bearwood Office

15 PERRY COURT, OLDBURY

- Ground floor warden controlled flat
- Electric storage heating
- Double glazing
- Spacious lounge and kitchen
- Two bedrooms
- Allocated parking and communal gardens
- Designated for over 60s (55+ with a disability)
- ENERGY RATING : C

OFFERS BASED ON £67,950

Viewings Bearwood Office

8 HOLLAND AVENUE, OLDBURY

- Traditional freehold double fronted semi-detached
- Three bedrooms and fully tiled bathroom
- Hall, through lounge and good size dining/ kitchen
- Downstairs store and W.C.
- Easily maintained garden
- Off-street parking bay
- Double glazed, centrally heated and alarmed
- ENERGY RATING : D

OFFERS BASED ON £119,500

Viewing Bearwood Office

32 BRANDHALL COURT, OLDBURY

- Well presented ground floor flat
- PVC double glazed and well heated
- Gated development
- Superb through lounge/dining room
- Two bedrooms
- Refitted kitchen and bathroom
- Garage and communal gardens
- FULL INTERNAL INSPECTION TO BE APPRECIATED
- ENERGY RATING : E

OFFERS BASED ON £94,950

Viewing: Bearwood Office

74 LIGHTWOODS ROAD, BEARWOOD

- Recently refurbished mid-terraced
- Close to Lightwoods Park and Warley Woods
- PVC double glazed and gas centrally heated
- Two double bedrooms
- Two reception rooms
- Refitted kitchen
- Refitted bathroom
- INTERNAL INSPECTION A MUST
- ENERGY RATING : G

OFFERS BASED ON £128,500

Viewing Bearwood Office

108 WILLOW AVENUE, EDGBASTON

- Most carefully maintained spacious family accommodation
- Four bedrooms and bathroom to first floor
- Through hall, dining room, attractive lounge, fitted kitchen, cloakroom/WC & laundry/utility room
- Established good size garden with separate garage
- Gas centrally heated and double glazed
- Easy reach Birmingham city centre
- ENERGY RATING : E

OFFERS BASED ON £195,000

Viewing Bearwood Office

18 TOWER ROAD, TIVIDALE

- Gas centrally heated and double glazed
- Three bedrooms and bathroom
- Lounge, spacious kitchen & conservatory
- Gardens with off-street parking
- Some general cosmetic improvement required
- ENERGY RATING : E

OFFERS BASED ON £110,000

Viewing Bearwood Office

102 GLADYS ROAD : BEARWOOD

- 2 double bedrooms
- Gas centrally heated
- Two reception rooms
- Refitted bathroom
- Ideal FTBs
- EPC : D

OFFERS BASED ON £109,950

Viewing : Bearwood Office

144 MILCOTE ROAD, BEARWOOD

- Freehold end terraced villa
- Easy access to Birmingham city centre
- Three bedrooms
- First floor shower room & downstairs bathroom
- Lounge, dining room and kitchen
- INTERNAL INSPECTION TO BE APPRECIATED
- ENERGY RATING : F

OFFERS BASED ON £148,950

Viewing Bearwood Office

68 AUBREY ROAD, QUINTON

- Centrally heated and alarmed
- Part PVC double glazed
- Two double bedrooms
- Bathroom with individual shower & separate W.C.
- Dining room, lounge and kitchen
- Ideal FTBs
- ENERGY RATING : D

OFFERS BASED ON £145,000

Viewings Bearwood Office

15 CLIFTON ROAD, SMETHWICK

- Midway between Bearwood and Smethwick
- Gas centrally heated
- Virtually PVC double glazed throughout
- Two double bedrooms
- Two reception rooms
- Fully tiled bathroom
- INTERNAL INSPECTION TO BE APPRECIATED
- Ideal FTBs
- ENERGY RATING : D

OFFERS BASED ON £94,950

Viewing Bearwood Office

75 MAYNARD ROAD, EDGBASTON

- Third floor modern apartment
- Gas centrally heated
- PVC double glazed
- Two bedrooms
- Open plan lounge/kitchen
- Allocated parking space
- Easy access to City Centre
- ENERGY RATING : C

Offers based on £74,950

VIEWING: BEARWOOD OFFICE

3 REAR OF 31 EVA ROAD, WINSON

- Pedestrian walkway off Eva Road
- Easy access Birmingham city centre
- Centrally heated and PVC double glazed
- Two bedrooms & fully tiled bathroom
- Lounge and kitchen/ breakfast room
- Ideal FTBs
- ENERGY RATING : E

OFFERS BASED ON £74,950

Viewing Bearwood Office

40 BISHOPTON ROAD, BEARWOOD

- Superbly presented mid-terraced property
- Gas centrally heated
- Mostly double glazed
- Two double bedrooms, store room and bathroom
- Vestibule & Hall with original minton tiled floor
- Through lounge/ dining room
- Neatly laid out garden
- INTERNAL INSPECTION TO BE APPRECIATED
- ENERGY RATING : D

OFFERS BASED ON £159,950

Viewings Bearwood Office

93 BARCLAY ROAD, BEARWOOD

- Facing Warley Woods
- Traditional features
- Inter-communicating lounge
- Excellent refitted kitchen/ breakfast room
- Family room ideal for GRANNY FLAT or similar
- 3 double bedrooms
- Loft conversion
- EPC : E

OFFERS BASED ON £244,950

Viewings: Bearwood Office

58 ST. MARYS ROAD, BEARWOOD

- Close to Bearwood High Street, Warley Woods and Lightwoods Park
- Gas centrally heated and PVC double glazed
- Two double bedrooms
- Lounge and dining room
- Bathroom with electric shower
- Neatly laid out rear garden
- Ideally suited for first time buyers
- INTERNAL INSPECTION TO BE APPRECIATED
- ENERGY RATING : D

OFFERS BASED ON £124,500

Viewing Bearwood Office

237 PARK ROAD, BEARWOOD

- Gas centrally heated & PVC double glazed
- Two double bedrooms
- Bathroom with individual shower compartment
- Two reception rooms & kitchen
- Downstairs cloakroom
- Garden to the rear
- Easy access Birmingham city centre
- ENERGY RATING : E

OFFERS BASED ON £154,950

Viewing Bearwood Office

217 GALTON ROAD, BEARWOOD

- Freehold mid terraced property
- Easy reach of Warley Woods & Lightwoods Park
- Three bedrooms and bathroom
- Hall, dining room, lounge and kitchen
- Gas centrally heated
- Part PVC double glazed
- Requiring some cosmetic improvement
- ENERGY RATING : D

OFFERS BASED ON £149,950

Viewing Bearwood Office

www.derekspiresandco.com

Stamp your own personality

By David Banner

Thinking of a MINI or a Fiat 500? Then you also need to be thinking about Vauxhall's trendy little ADAM, the brand's little lifestyle citycar.

Here's a fashionable alternative with an encyclopaedic list of options, bidding for individuality beyond the hatchback herd.

The model's title is a nod to Adam Opel, the founder of Vauxhall's European sister company, but is unlikely to start a trend for Biblical car names. It may though, start a trend for buyer personalisation, the like of which the market has never before seen.

With over a million possible specification and trim combinations, the chances of two identical Vauxhall ADAMs ever being produced are statistically quite slim. Ground-breaking where it matters then – in the showroom. To disguise perhaps the fact that this car is actually quite conventional in arguably less important areas, running on the underpinnings of Vauxhall's old third generation Corsa.

Slide into the seat and there's a very different feel from that provided by a Corsa – or any other conventional supermini. The commanding driving position, the big chunky MINI-like wheel, the wide, low glass area. – it all makes you eager to tackle the urban jungle, with the promise of secondary road sportiness beyond.

Not too much mind. There's no really rorty engine in the line-up and the underpinnings are resolutely Corsa-based, not a supermini many would instinctively equate with an especially rewarding drive. Better to simply accept this car for the friendly fashion trinket it is, with the proviso that the entry-level 70PS 1.2-litre 16v engine does struggle a little with the task of pushing nearly 1.1-tonnes of ADAM up the road with any real zip.

'The model's title is a nod to Adam Opel, the founder of Vauxhall's European sister company'

As with all the powerplants launched with this car, it's a petrol unit, 62mph from rest occupying nearly 15 seconds on the way to a top speed only just over 100mph. Better by far to find only a little more for one of the 1.4s, an 87PS unit that manages 62mph in a far more acceptable 12.5 seconds on the way to 109mph. And a 100PS engine that improves things further to 11.5 seconds and 115mph. Ask for something a little more hi-tech and the designers will point to the three cylinder 1.0-litre petrol.

Prices start at just over £11,000 for the base 1.2i 16v petrol version, but find the extra few hundred for one of the two petrol 1.4s that are notably less feeble.

There are three main trim levels for the ADAM: Baseline is 'JAM', supposed to be what Vauxhall calls 'fashionable', pay just under £1,500 more to go 'GLAM' for a trim package that's apparently more 'elegant', or pay a further £500 on top of that for the top, and supposedly 'sportier' trim level – 'SLAM'.

ADAM & EVE IT

THE STYLISH ADAM **JAM 1.2** available on **FLEXIBLE PCP** and comes with Lifetime Warranty

LIFETIME WARRANTY 100,000 MILE

Representative Example

23 Monthly Payments of	£99
On-the-road cash price	£11,680
Vauxhall Deposit Contribution	£1,340
Customer Deposit	£1,989.68
Amount of Credit	£8,350.32
Interest Charges	£421.68
Total Amount Payable	£12,101.68

Optional Final Payment (GFV)	£6,495
Fixed Rate of Interest per year, true	2.84%
Mileage per annum	8,000
Excess mileage charge, per mile	£0.09
Duration of Agreement	24 months
Representative APR	2.9% APR

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Halesowen Motor House
West Midlands
0121 462 2916

Dudley Motor Company
West Midlands
01384 454100

Stourbridge Motor House
Stourbridge
01384 672918

VAUXHALL

Official Government Test Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO_2 emissions (g/km). ADAM JAM 1.2i 16v VVT: Urban: 39.8 (7.1), Extra-urban: 67.3 (4.2), Combined: 53.5 (5.3). CO_2 emissions 124g/km#

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Drivetime

New special edition Fiat 500L

By Sharon Walters

The Fiat 500L range goes from strength to strength in 2014 with a new special edition, new engine variants and new optional equipment.

The new Fiat 500L Beats Edition blends cutting-edge technology with a cool, urban look, combining the chunky go-anywhere styling of the 500L Trekking with an eye-catching, two-tone, grey/black colour scheme finished in a choice of gloss and matte finishes.

Further styling enhancements include 17in alloy wheels, wheel arch extensions, side skirts and bumper inserts, all finished in black, as well as mirror fairings, front 'whiskers' and the tailgate handle in satin chrome. Red brake callipers and red inserts in the mirror fairings complete the distinctive "Beats" look.The interior of the Fiat 500L Beats Edition has also been enhanced with automatic dual-zone climate control as standard, as well as a matte-grey dashboard panel and a Total Black interior pack which includes special black fabric/eco-leather seat upholstery complete with red, embroidered '500' logos on the front backrests.

A premium BeatsAudio audio system is also standard, employing the latest Beats by Dr Dre technology to provide a rich, immersive listening experience for all occupants.

Based around the Fiat 500L Trekking, the new 500L Beats Edition also features the Trekking's revised suspension, mud and snow tyres, City Brake Control and Fiat's Traction+traction control system as standard.

Additional features include rear electric windows, front fog lights, a touchscreen Uconnect infotainment system, automatic headlights, rain sensors and rear privacy glass.

The Fiat 500L Beats Edition is available with two petrol engines, the new 120hp 1.4 T-Jet and the 105hp 0.9 TwinAir Turbo, as well as two turbo-diesel power plants: the 105hp 1.6 MultiJet II and new 120hp 1.6 MultiJet II.

The EU6-approved, 1.6 MultiJet II turbo-diesel engine is equipped with a variable geometry turbocharger, developed by Honeywell, and develops 120hp at 3,750 rpm and 320Nm of torque at 1,750 rpm.

Top speed increases to 117mph (up from 112mph with the 105hp engine) while the 0-62mph sprint is now dispatched in 10.7 seconds (versus 11.3 seconds). Combined consumption dips only slightly to 61.4mpg (versus 62.8mpg) while CO2 emissions of 120 g/km (+3g/km) ensure it remains in the same tax and BIK band as the 105hp engine.

The EU6-ready 1.4 T-Jet petrol offers an identical 120hp at 5,000rpm but its maximum 215Nm of torque is available from just 2,500rpm, ensuring a broad and flexible performance range.

Top speed is 117mph while the 0-62mph dash takes just 10.2 seconds, with combined-cycle fuel economy figure of 40.9mpg and CO2 emissions of 159 g/km.

These new engines will go on sale in the UK in mid-March with pricing to be announced shortly.

Finally, for 2014, two new packs are now available on the FIAT 500L and 500L MPW. The new "Premium Pack" offers £1,720-worth of luxury equipment for just £1,300.

Full beige or grey leather upholstery; a ParkView rear parking camera and a five-inch touchscreen Uconnect system with DAB and satellite navigation are all included in the pack, which is offered on the Lounge model only.

In addition, a new "Living Pack", comprising heated front seats, height adjustable front seats, driver- and passenger-seat adjustable lumbar support and a front arm rest, can be combined with the Premium Pack for an additional £450 – this delivers a saving for the custome of £125 versus the standard combined price of these two options.

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Raising bar with a more streamlined Sport model

Land Rover again raises the premium SUV bar with its latest offering – the V8 diesel-powered Range Rover Sport, writes Iain Dooley.

It can't have escaped you that Land Rover is doing rather well at the moment. Although only one half of the Jaguar-Land Rover equation, the 4x4 side of the business is selling the lion's share of the product.

The compact entry-level Evoque SUV burst onto the scene with all the fanfare and adoration of a major celebrity, and the trickle down effect – or should that be trickle up – had been felt across the firm's recently refreshed range.

One obvious recipient of the Evoque's magic has been the second generation Range Rover Sport. Visual similarities to the rock star of the range are no coincidence, while Land Rover's continued focus on reducing weight and boosting the level of technology in its cars continues with this more streamlined Sport.

Lighter, more economical and offering a more engaging on-road driving experience than the car it replaces, alongside Land Rover's long established off-road credentials, this new generation Sport also boasts more cabin space plus the option of a family-friendly third row of seats.

Just like the latest Range Rover, the Sport adopts its maker's next-gen Terrain Response system, which includes an auto mode clever enough to sense changes in terrain and change the engine, gearbox and suspension settings accordingly.

Although endowed with a perfectly good range of engines – six-cylinder diesel and eight-pot supercharged petrol units – the final piece of the performance jigsaw has now slotted into place.

Hot

If petrol isn't your thing but you still want to feel a shove in your back, there's now a hot diesel option in the form of a 4.4-litre V8, 334 horsepower lump. On paper, consumption and emission rise slightly as you'd expect, but the trade-off is a welcome increased turn of speed and more mid-range grunt.

With a predictable embarrassment of riches in both power and torque departments, this hot V8 diesel Sport is the consummate all-rounder. Ample low down torque is complemented by superb throttle sensitivity, making it ideal not just for inching over treacherous obstacles but also breezing past slower traffic on wide, sweeping A-roads.

Despite the potential for higher corner entry speeds when in diesel V8 guise, bodyroll is expertly kept in check and the Sport's ride is rarely compromised by its large but stylish alloy wheels. For a car destined to spend much of its time on the road, this should be music to any prospective owner's ears.

One thing that hasn't changed with the inclusion of a more powerful diesel motor, is the Sport's living quarters. The cabin remains a plush and inviting environment for occupants fore and aft, while the fascia's clean, simple lines put the cluttered driving environments of many rivals to shame.

In V8 diesel guise, the Range Rover Sport is as close to a no-compromise luxury SUV for the real world as you can get. It might look stately but its footprint remains a manageable one, while its expertly honed driving dynamics allow you to fully exploit the diesel V8's welcome extra power with supreme confidence.

TESTED

Model: Range Rover Sport SDV8 Autobiography Dynamic, from £81,550 on the road.
Engine: 4.4-litre V8 diesel unit developing 334bhp.
Transmission: 8-speed automatic transmission as standard, driving all four wheels.
Performance: Maximum speed 140mph, 0-62mph 6.9 seconds.
Economy: 32.5mpg.
CO2 Rating: 229g/km.

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Drivetime

Swift made even better

The Special Edition Suzuki Swift SZ-L will go on sale tomorrow with a limited production run of 500 units.

The SZ-L is based on the 1.2-litre SZ3, but with additional equipment and features designed to enhance the sporty and fun to drive character of Swift.

All Swift SZ3 models already come well equipped with seven airbags, ESP, air conditioning, USB port and Bluetooth as standard.

SZ-L adds LED daytime running lights and cruise control from the recently updated Swift SZ4, along with extra equipment only available on SZ-L.

Exclusive equipment includes 2-tone metallic paintwork as standard; in either Boost Blue or Cosmic Black body colours with contrasting Cool White roof, rear spoiler and door mirrors.

Inside, silver stitching has been added to the steering wheel, gear gaiter and seats which also have a unique fabric design.

Crucially, the Swift SZ-L offers value for money in terms of running costs and purchase price; the 1.2-litre Dual VVT 94PS engine is one of the most powerful in its class, but offers low emissions of just 116g/km CO2 costing £30 in annual VED after the first year and returns a frugal 56.5mpg on the combined cycle.

SZ-L is in insurance group 11E, the same low group as the rest of the Swift range, making it the ideal purchase for younger Swift fans who want to own a more striking, design led car for an affordable cost.

Additionally, Suzuki Financial Services has included it in their popular PCP Driveplan campaign, SZ-L requires a deposit of just £999 followed by 42 monthly payments of £179 and an optional final balloon payment to keep the car.

Swift SZ-L is available on the recently extended VAT free promotion until the March 31 at £10,899 for three door models and £11,316 for five door models.

Popular model refreshed

The 2014 Geneva Motor Show will see the première of the new Citroën C1 – a fresh take on a popular model that has sold more than 760,000 examples worldwide since its launch in 2005.

The latest version of Citroën's city car is available in both three and five-door versions, as well as a new open-top body style called Airscape.

A car with a strong personality, delivering an upbeat response to urban mobility requirements, the new Citroën C1 reflects the bold renewal of Citroën's C-line.

Citroën C1 features:

More design: With dynamic lines and a cheerful front-end gaze, characterised by its headlights, the C1 is an immediate head-turner. Bi-tone versions and brightly coloured interiors underline the playful character and joie de vivre. The new C1 is unmistakably a member of the new Citroën family

Greater comfort: For everyday driving. Agile and nippy, the new C1 marries compact exterior dimensions (just 3.46m), with easy handling and a turning circle of 4.80m.

Ride comfort is further improved, thanks to the C1's exceptional suspension comfort and impeccable road handling.

More useful technology: Including the 7" Touch Driver Interface and Mirror Screentechnology, to copy and run smartphone apps from the touchscreen.

The new Citroën C1 can also be fitted with keyless entry and start, as well as a reversing camera and hill-start assist.

Optimised running costs: Weighing just 840kg and available with new-generation petrol engines, the new Citroën C1 ranks among the best in class for fuel consumption.

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fishing

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jumble sales / fetes

HALLAM STREET METHODIST CHURCH
West Bromwich
Jumble Sale
Saturday, March 1, 2014.
at 12.30pm.

JUMBLE SALE
Saturday, 1st March
at 12 noon
St Peter's Church Hall
Whitehall Road,
West Bromwich.
Admission 20p.

sports & leisure

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holidays

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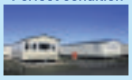
Perfect condition



£7,995 inc fees. Call 07881 203997

mind, body & soul

psychics

PSYCHIC READINGS & party bookings. West Brom indoor market. Special Offer £15. 07957 107958.

what's on

antique fairs

ANTIQUE & COLLECTORS FAIR, Kinver Comm Centre, Sunday, March 2, Est. 1979.Waverley, Bromsgrove, Burcot Lane every Friday. 0121 550 4123. Next Kinver Book Fair, Sunday, March 16

3 Home & Services

furniture

WINTER SALE UPTO 70% OFF
Furniture Factory Outlet
Worcester extra value divan single was £99 NOW £49.50. Doubles £89.50. Cleo Sofa Bed clic clac in fabric or faux leather was £398 NOW £119 Melissa Cabin Bed, with base cupboards and drawers, blue or pink, quality mattress, was £390 NOW £195. complete divans from £49, ortho matts from £69, memory foam matts £89, metal fashion beds frames £39, ottoman and leather sleigh beds, over 1000 mattresses, wing chairs £119, recliner chairs £199, massage and power recliners from £299, complete suites from £299. **Save 50% on all leather corner units-normally £499 half price £249.** 3 seater wexford fabric sofas-normally £399 clearance £149. Chairs £49. Recliners leather £199. Beds from £49. Mattresses from just £29. Bunk beds £99.
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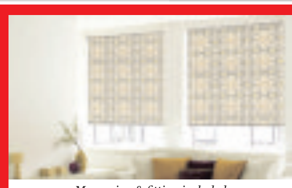

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4 Pets & Animals

equestrian corner

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guns & dogs

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pets corner

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Please be aware that when purchasing a puppy there are some simple guidelines you can follow to ensure that you are not purchasing from a Puppy Farmer:
1. Try to ensure you visit the puppy whilst it is still with it's Mother.
2. Do not arrange to collect a puppy from any other location than that of the breeder.
3. Ensure that you are given any KC documentation, if pedigree.
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vets

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5 Business & Farming

business opportunities

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business directory

commercial premises

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6 Property

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9 Local Information

public & legal notices

DEREK JONES (Deceased)
Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of 18 West Road Tipton West Midlands DY4 0XJ, who died on 28/08/2013, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned on or before 09/05/2014, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.
APS LEGAL AND ASSOCIATES
White Hart Yard Bridge Street
Worksop Nottinghamshire S80 1HR
T402795

LICENSING ACT 2003
NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A PREMISES LICENCE
An application for a Premises Licence has been made by **Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council** to Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council in respect of premises known as (Premises Name:)
Lightwoods Park
which are situated at (Premises Postal Address:)
Bounded by Hagley Road West, Galton Road and Adkins Lane (B67 5DP)
The proposed application is as follows: (state the relevant licensable activities that you propose will be carried on or from the premises and the hours of those activities)
Sale of alcohol for consumption on the premises:
Monday 5th May 2014 between 10.30 and 20.00 hours only
A record of the application may be inspected at Trading Standards and Licensing Section, Unit 33 Coneygree Road, Tipton, DY4 8XR during normal office hours Monday to Friday.
Any representations by interested parties or responsible authorities regarding the application must be made in writing to: Trading Standards & Licensing, Homes & Communities Directorate, Sandwell Council House, PO Box 2372, Oldbury B69 3BS
21st/ March/2014 (Insert correct date this must be 28 days after the day on which the application was given to the Council)
It is an offence, liable on summary conviction to a fine up to Level 5 (£5000) on the standard scale, to knowingly or recklessly make a false statement in connection with the application.

SANDWELL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

The Borough Council of Sandwell (Brunswick Park Road, Wednesbury) (Temporary Road Closure) Order 2014

1. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that in order to facilitate repairs to a sewer by Amey (who are working on behalf of Severn Trent Water), the Borough Council of Sandwell, in accordance with the provisions of Section 14 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and in not less than seven days from the date of this Notice, intends to make an Order, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit any vehicles from proceeding in Brunswick Park Road, Wednesbury from its junction with Foley Street to its junction with Crankhall Lane.
2. The alternative route for vehicles will be via Foley Street, Wood Green Road, Rooth Street, Brunswick Park Road and vice-versa.
3. The Order will take effect on 10th March 2014, it is expected that the work will be completed and the road re-opened by 21st March 2014. The Order may continue in force for a period not exceeding 18 months, or until the works in connection with the Order have been completed, whichever is the sooner.
4. Any queries about the work should be directed to Fern Squire of Amey who can be contacted on 01785 624150 and those relating to the effect of the Order on traffic using the highway should be directed to Highway Services on 0845 359 7518.

The Borough Council of Sandwell (Foley Drive, Oldbury) (Temporary One-Way) Order 2014

1. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that in order to facilitate work to a gas main by Balfour Beatty, (who are working on behalf of National Grid Gas), the Borough Council of Sandwell intends, in accordance with the provisions of Section 14 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and in not less than seven days from the date of this Notice, to make an Order, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit any vehicles from proceeding in Foley Drive, Oldbury from its junction with Tame Road to its junction with Kingsway, other than in a westerly then northerly direction.
2. The alternative route for northbound vehicles will be Tame Road and Kingsway.
3. The Order will take effect on 17th March 2014, and it is anticipated that the one-way will remain operational until 11th April 2014, after which time it is expected that the work will be complete. The Order may continue in force for a period not exceeding 18 months, or until the works in connection with the Order have been completed, whichever is the sooner.
4. Any queries about the work should be directed to James Thompson of Balfour Beatty who can be contacted on 07890 256508 and those relating to the effect of the Order on traffic using the highway should be directed to Highway Services on 0845 359 7518.

The Borough Council of Sandwell (Adkins Lane, Smethwick) (Temporary Road Closure) Order 2014

1. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that in order to facilitate the installation of two new electricity ducts by Western Power Distribution, the Borough Council of Sandwell in accordance with the provisions of Section 14 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and in not less than seven days from the date of this Notice, intends to make an Order, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit any vehicles from proceeding in Adkins Lane, Smethwick from its junction with Milcote Road to its junction with Lightwoods Road.
2. The alternative route for vehicles will be via Milcote Road, St Marys Road, Lightwoods Road and vice-versa.
3. The Order will take effect on 16th March 2014, it is expected that the work will be completed that same day. The Order may continue in force for a period not exceeding 18 months, or until the works in connection with the Order have been completed, whichever is the sooner.
4. Any queries about the work should be directed to Alan Moseley of Western Power Distribution who can be contacted on 07532 092991 and those relating to the effect of the Order on traffic using the highway should be directed to Highway Services on 0845 359 7518.

The Borough Council of Sandwell (Downing Street, Smethwick) (Temporary Road Closure) Order 2014

1. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that in order to facilitate repairs to a sewer by Amey (who are working on behalf of Severn Trent Water), the Borough Council of Sandwell, in accordance with the provisions of Section 14 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and in not less than seven days from the date of this Notice, intends to make an Order, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit any vehicles from proceeding in Downing Street, Smethwick from its junction with Wattville Road to its junction with Rabone Lane.
2. The alternative route for vehicles will be via Rabone Lane, Cornwall Road, Downing Street and vice-versa.
3. The Order will take effect on 16th March 2014, it is expected that the work will be completed that same day. The Order may continue in force for a period not exceeding 18 months, or until the works in connection with the Order have been completed, whichever is the sooner.
4. Any queries about the work should be directed to Ben Hooley of Amey who can be contacted on 01785 624150 and those relating to the effect of the Order on traffic using the highway should be directed to Highway Services on 0845 359 7518.

DATED this 27th day of February 2014
N SHARMA, Director of Legal and Governance Services
Sandwell Council House, Oldbury, West Midlands

SANDWELL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

The Borough Council of Sandwell (Beaconview Road, Wychnor Grove, Hampshire Road and Chester Road, West Bromwich) (Temporary Road Closures) Order 2014

1. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that in order to facilitate work to the overhead electricity cables by the Electricity Alliance, the Borough Council of Sandwell in accordance with the provisions of Section 14 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and in not less than seven days from the date of this Notice, intends to make an Order, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit any vehicles from proceeding in the following roads in West Bromwich:

Beaconview Road	–	From its junction with Navigation Lane to its junction with Millersdale Drive.
Wychnor Grove	–	in its entirety.
Hampshire Road	–	from its junction with Surrey Crescent to its junction with Chester Road.
Chester Road	–	from its junction with Surrey Crescent to its junction with Pembroke Road.

2. The alternative routes for vehicles will be via:

Beaconview Road	-	Beaconview Road, Charlemont Road, Walsall Road and vice- versa.
Wychnor Grove	–	no diversion route signed (cul-de-sac).
Hampshire Road	–	Chester Road, Hampshire Road and vice-versa.
Chester Road	–	Pembroke Road, Chester Road and vice-versa.

3. The Order will take effect on 10th March 2014, it is expected that the road closures will be phased as follows:

Beaconview Road	–	10th March - 1st August 2014.
Wychnor Grove	–	20th - 27th March 2014.
Hampshire Road	–	21st - 23rd July 2014.
Chester Road	–	23rd July - 4th August 2014.

The Order may continue in force for a period not exceeding 18 months, or until the works in connection with the Order have been completed, whichever is the sooner.
4. Any queries about the work should be directed to James Norcross of the Electricity Alliance who can be contacted on 07900 240106 and those relating to the effect of the Order on traffic using the highway should be directed to Highway Services on 0845 359 7518.

Dated this 27th day of February 2014
N SHARMA, Director of Legal and Governance Services
Sandwell Council House, Oldbury, West Midlands

SANDWELL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL
Regeneration and Economy
Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended)
Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990
Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2010

I hereby give notice that Sandwell Council has received the following applications under the planning acts which it is required to give public notice for the reason given at the beginning of each group of applications.
The proposed development does not accord with the provisions of the Development Plan in force in the area in which it is situated.

DC/14/56790	Diaverum Facilities Management Ltd	Units A4, A5 Link One Industrial Park George Henry Road Tipton DY4 7BU	Proposed change of use from (Class B1/B8) to Medical Clinic (Class D1) for provision of renal dialysis and associated treatment required by patients with renal failure and alterations to elevations and parking.

This is a major application.

DC/14/56773	Mr Paul Tibbetts Gateway Recycling Limited	Former ERI Limited Building Fountain Lane Oldbury B69 3BH	Proposed change of use to the storage, sorting and redistribution of RDF (Refuse Derived Fuel) waste.

This is a major application.

DC/14/56797	Mr Mark Horsley Mar City Developments	Former Atlas Metals Site Cranford Street Smethwick	Variation of condition 1 of DC/11/53259 – proposed substitution of house types.

Members of the public may inspect copies of these applications at Council House, Freeth Street, Oldbury, West Midlands, B69 3DE
(between 8.00a.m. and 5.30p.m. Monday to Thursday, and 8.00a.m. to 5p.m. Friday) or via the Council's Public Access website (www.sandwell.gov.uk).
Anyone who wishes to make representations about these applications can do so via the website, or should write to the Council at the above address within 21 days (and 21 days for Listed Building or Conservation Area consent) of the date of this advertisement quoting the application reference number.
MR NICK BUBALO, Area Director – Regeneration and Economy

SANDWELL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF SANDWELL (SANDON ROAD, SMETHWICK) (TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE) ORDER 2014

1. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Borough Council of Sandwell, in order to facilitate carriageway resurfacing works by Birmingham City Council in accordance with the provisions of Section 14 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, has made an Order, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit any vehicles from proceeding in the stretch of Sandon Road, Smethwick which falls under Sandwell's jurisdiction.
2. The alternative route for vehicles will be via Hagley Road, Bearwood Road and vice-versa.
3. In order to maintain access to side roads throughout the duration of the works the provisions of the following Traffic Regulation Orders will be suspended making part of Poplar Road and Rutland Road two-way:

The County Borough of Warley (Traffic Regulation) Order 1970

1. Save as in Article 2 of this Order no person shall, except upon the direction or with the permission of a police constable in uniform, cause any vehicle to proceed in any of the lengths of road specified in the first column of the Schedule to this Order otherwise than in the direction specified opposite to that length in the second column of the said Schedule.

Schedule

Length of Road	Direction
Poplar Road	South – towards Bearwood Road.

For its whole length from Sandon Road to Bearwood Road **in as far as it relates to the stretch of Poplar Road between Sandon Road and Anderson Road only**.

The Borough Council of Sandwell (Rutland Road, Bearwood) (One Way Traffic) Order 2006

3. No person shall, except upon the permission of a police officer, cause or permit any motor vehicle or pedal cycle to proceed along that length of Rutland Road from its junction with Bearwood Road to a point 7 metres east of that junction other than in a westerly direction.
4. The Order will take effect on 3rd March 2014, and it is expected that the work will take until 7th March 2014, to complete with the anticipated hours of working being 20.00hrs - 06.00hrs. The Order may continue in force for a period not exceeding 18 months, or until the works in connection with the Order have been completed, whichever is the sooner.
5. Any queries about the work should be directed to Clive Beards of Amey (working on behalf of Birmingham City Council) who can be contacted on 0121 212 7227 and those relating to the effect of the Order on traffic using the highway should be directed to Highway Services on 0845 359 7518.

DATED this 27th day of February 2014
N SHARMA, Director of Legal and Governance Services
Sandwell Council House, Oldbury, West Midlands

LEGAL / PUBLIC NOTICES
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SANDWELL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

The Borough Council of Sandwell (Waterfall Lane, Cradley Heath) (Temporary Prohibition of Driving) Order 2014

1. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Borough Council of Sandwell intends in accordance with the provisions of Section 14 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, not less than seven days from the date of this Notice, to make an Order, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit any vehicle from proceeding into Waterfall Lane from the junction with Perry Park Road.
2. The alternative route for vehicles travelling northbound will be diverted via Perry Park Road, Highfield Road and Waterfall Lane.
3. The Order will take effect on 10th March 2014, and will be operational during the daytime (8am - 5pm only), it is anticipated that the works may commence on that day. The works are expected to be completed on 14th March 2014. The Order may continue in force for a period not exceeding 18 months, or until the works in connection with the Order have been completed, whichever is the sooner.
4. Any queries about the works should be directed to Steve Wall of Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council on 0845 359 7518 and those relating to the effect of the Order on traffic using the highway should be directed to Highway Services on 0845 359 7518.

Dated this 27th day of February 2014
N SHARMA, Director of Legal and Governance Services
Sandwell Council House, Oldbury, West Midlands, B69 3DE

10 Personals

personal

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general

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Women seeking men

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FEMALE 65, attractive, much younger looking, slim but curvy 5ft 2ins, blonde, seeks younger man. Loves animals and cosy nights in. **Text Only Mailbox Box No: 4319200**

CAROL 38 attractive romantic not looking for fairy tales just happy endings, seeking lovely male to put the sparkle back into my life. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410721**

ANNA, busty mature lady seeks no strings discreet meetings with male any age or location. **Tel No: 0905 002 1956 Box 366019**

CLAIRE voluptuous tall feminine attractive lady who loves good company, fine wine/food, travel, WLTM tall professional for romance dates and hopeful ltr. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410627**

LORRAINE 5ft 9ins, slim, 57, nurse, looking for someone to look after me. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410543**

ADVENTUROUS attractive lady seeks no strings casual times with discreet gent. **Tel: No. 0905 002 1957 Box 409991**

MICHELLE 37, looking for laughter fun and romance with the right guy, if you could be him and have nothing to loose call me for a chat. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410415**

TAYLOR 21 black beautiful classy intelligent, loves to have lots of fun and enjoy life to the full, seeking mature guy to make me happy. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409911**

SAM, 35yrs, own business, sexy, loves dressing up and married, seeks discreet man for casual meetings. Can travel anywhere. ACA. **Tel No: 0905 002 1961 Box 408297**

WENDY 50, blue eyes, 5ft 7ins, likes music, meals out, seeks white male, 45-55 with similar interests and GSOH for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410499**

73YR old Hereford lady, GSOH, young at heart, many interests, seeks caring, genuine gent of similar age for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410331**

NICKY bubbly curvy fun blonde, varied interests, enjoys meals out, holidays, seeking N/S male with GSOH for possible ltr. Looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410479**

KAREN 32 a hardworking petite blonde, enjoys nights out, music, etc, WLTM for more than just friendship with similar chilled, kind, easy going guy. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410461**

LIZ 5ft 7ins, attractive, outgoing, likes walks, dogs, cooking, seeks male for fun and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410395**

ZOE 25 long haired sensual female, very naughty, broadminded and open, looking for similar fun guy for uncomplicated adult meets. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409719**

JANE attractive, feminine open-minded mature female genuinely looking for adult fun. No time wasters please. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409715**

ATTRACTIVE female, young 49, 5ft 7ins, blonde hair, blue eyes, slim, genuine, loyal, easygoing, GSOH, seeks tall, handsome male, 40-50 for fun times, friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406135**

JILL 50, attractive, 5ft, blonde, own home, no ties, likes films, reading, travel, music, good social circle, seeking that someone special. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410105**

ATTRACTIVE professional lady, 56, enjoys country walks, meals out, seeks professional gent with GSOH to enjoy the good things in life. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409895**

ELAINE attractive 39yr old blonde single mum seeking respectful male/dad with similar interests for adult friendship, hopefully leading to love. Looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410117**

DONNA 27yrs blue eyed blonde with cute dimpled smile, loves socialising but looking for that special someone with GSOH to cuddle up with, enjoy fun/good times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409733**

ABI creative free spirited lady enjoys drama, photography, music, WLTM well-spoken patient, independent non-judgmental man. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409723**

MARGARET OHAC, professional, sincere, adventurous, loving, kind, solvent lady who enjoys most things WLTM caring male with similar refined tastes. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407925**

ATTRACTIVE 49yr old divorced lady, looking for honest, reliable man for LTR, 49-60. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409955**

ABBA girl blonde lookalike, size 16, attractive, bubbly, OHAC, seeking solvent, refined, handsome guy with full head of hair, 5ft 9ins plus, professional and courteous. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409151**

NEETA Black beauty, classy, intelligent 21yrs, loves to enjoy life, have lots of fun and be spoilt, give me a call. Any age, looks and status. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409101**

HI I'm Jo, first timer, newly divorced perfect size 10, blonde, attractive, tactile and looking to fall in love again. Age unimportant, dad welcome. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409089**

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SUSIE 32yr old nurse who likes cosy nights in with a good bottle of wine and spending quality times with great company, if you feel the same pls get in touch. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408877**

BABS 27yrs slender with dark haired passionate Italian who loves to dance, eat out, looking for nice n/s male to spend quality adult time with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407943**

BUBBLY 60 plus lady, slim, fair hair, comfy in jeans and leather jacket, seeks similar male for friendship etc. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408859**

MIXED raced lady, 34, widely travelled, seeking gent, 30-40 for romance. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408429**

CAROL 36, looking for older experienced gent 50-70yrs for fun times only, discretion assured and expected. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 401853**

JOANNA 34, in need of tlc, wining, dining being treated like the princess I am, looking for sugar daddy, that someone special to love me. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408869**

MARIA gorgeous outgoing bbw 27, good fun, caring, romantic, looking for that special someone to share life with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408733**

KIM attractive single lady new to area looking for meet new friends and maybe a new love interest. I have many hobbies and am interesting to know, pls call me. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408489**

TAYLOR attractive very busty curvy black female looking for fun times with open-minded male who is also looking for fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408311**

BETHANY 25yr old blonde, slim size 10 with great personality, looking for nice guy to share my life with, single dad welcome. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408253**

KIRSTY blonde blue eyed size 12 nurse, enjoys cosy nights, driving, holidays, socialising, WLTM broadminded male for adult fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409259**

KATH blonde independent female, employed with OHAC looking for fun and laughter with likeminded nice easy going male, any age. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407955**

TRACY slim dark haired beauty, petite, hardworking career, enjoys dancing, nights out, WLTM loving male who can make me laugh for an adult relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409419**

SHARON very attractive British black lady, sexy size 6 looking for white male to fall in love with. Beautiful people can be lonely too. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409263**

MID naughty forties female looking fun, thrills and discreet meets, give me a call, you won't be disappointed. Any age with own accommodation. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409109**

ANITA very attractive black female, seeking mature white/Asian man to enjoy uncomplicated relationship with no ties. Any age, pls contact me, I'm very lonely. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408505**

HI I'm Pam, cuddly, attractive, self-sufficient, employed, looking for similar young looking, sincere male for hopeful ltr. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407933**

FEMALE many interests, seeks male, 40-55 for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408537**

28YR old female, seeking male with GSOH for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408639**

68YR old lady, likes gardening, meals out, days out, looking for sincere gent to share time with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408413**

JENNY single independent attractive lady, tall and leggy, sensual and looking for very special male friend. Only genuine callers pls. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408285**

CHRIS blue eyed blonde single female, lots of interests, loves travel, beach, nights in/out, looking for mature sincere gent for possible ltr. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407615**

LITTLE bit nice and definitely a little bit naughty! Imaginative curvy blonde seeks male for kisses and cuddles. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 363428**

62YR old female, widowed, small, slim, attractive, kind, outgoing, likes meals out, dancing, holidays, nights in, seeking professional gent. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 394106**

SUE attractive lonely brunette who loves eves in/out, music, WLTM someone sincere to love and get close to, why not give me a call? **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407021**

CURVY Irish female 35yrs looking for fun, frolics, weekends away and lots of excitement with reliable male, discretion assured. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407603**

SLIM active lady, 60's, N/S, seeks honest, kind gent, 57-62 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407693**

ANNABELLA board attractive 30 something nurse wanting healing hands for no strings fun. No TLC required. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407449**

SUE 40's female who enjoys evenings in/out looking for someone to have some fun and hopefully get close to, go on, give me a ring. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407019**

NICKY loving caring gorgeous fun young lady who loves swimming, dancing and lots more, seeking male for text chats and fun times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407459**

BLACK female, 45, seeking older gent, 60 plus who knows how to look after a lady. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407787**

PAM 71, feels younger, lots to give, socialising, theatre, country walks, charity work, seeking male to share interests with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407851**

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LOVING caring young 67yr old female, 5ft 2ins, slim size 12, brown hair, likes meals out, GSOH, smoker, seeks slim, smart male with GSOH, 58-62. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 364651**

MANDY divorced independent 46yr old single mum, confident, bubbly and social, looking for male companion to share good times and to be there for each other. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407469**

NICKY 26 fun single female who has been on her own far too long desperately seeking her Prince Charming, must be tactile and possess the ability to fall in love. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407485**

MICHELLE lonely singleton, fit/slender, passionate, easy-going seeks male to cook for and generally spoil rotten in exchange for great companionship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407501**

HEATHER larger than life, cuddly built lady, scrubs up pretty well, employed, OHAC, GSOH, looking for good times with willing male, fun times guaranteed. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407307**

TRACY 35yr old blonde petite single mum, WLTM tall male for nights out, text chats and hopefully ltr. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407215**

LYN slim size 10, 5ft 9ins, attractive with GSOH, OHAC, employed, WLTM genuine guy who is also looking to put some fun back into life. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407195**

DEBS 37yr old professional, outgoing, bubbly, seeking genuine man for good times in/out and just see where it leads. Single dad welcome. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407039**

BLONDE blue eyed 72yr old widow, GSOH, young at heart, seeks honest, caring gent of similar age for holidays, weekends away and happy times, friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407113**

WHERE have all the genuine men gone? Sue single female who enjoys nights in/out, music, seeks sincere male to enjoy good times and get close to. Pls ring. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407025**

PAULA 38 single mum with OHAC, attractive blue eyes, size 14, seeking well built male with GSOH and honest/reliable disposition, looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407029**

MEDIUM build female, 66, widow, 5ft 5ins, likes walks, reading, holidays, seeks sincere male. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407003**

HI I am Linda a lonely petite mature lady looking for nice caring male up to 65yrs who also has lots of love to give for hopeful relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406715**

ANITA petite 33yr old tanned, toned sexy size 10 female with very high drive and lots of energy looking for similar man for adult no stings fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406835**

CARING female, likes Indian rock music, concerts, cinema, seeks North Staffs male, 40-55 for friendship/relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406757**

LINDA bored housewife wanting to spice things up a bit looking for clean well mannered professional for discreet adult meets. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406705**

GOOD looking professional female, 51, enjoys arts, wining/dining, sight seeing, country walks, seeks special male to enjoy great fun with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406765**

DONNA 42yrs young separated female who is ready to start dating again, bubbly, attractive, blonde and raring to get going, come on don't keep me waiting! **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406341**

SINGLE cuddly female, 5ft 6ins, green eyes, seeks male, 40-50 for fun and more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406015**

PAT 67, attractive, likes reading, holidays, seeking female, 65-72 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 405985**

SHELLEY 48, 5ft 5ins, brunette, seeking discreet relationship with male 48-52 for friendship/companionship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 405795**

CHRISTINA 38 very pretty petite trainee nurse looking for N/S male companionship to enjoy meals/drinks out, leading to more maybe. Age/looks and status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 405243**

BLACK female 32yrs, 38dd, very curvy, sensual and looking for discreet fun with no strings or complications, any age, looks or status. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 405269**

MARIA petite curvy brunette, into keep fit, running, beauty, looking for nice genuine tall N/S guy with no ties for fun adult companionship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 405099**

SHAZ 33 easygoing voluptuous black female with lovely smile and personality to match, loves music, keeping fit and looking good, WLTM appreciative guy **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 404819**

WOMAN 55yrs old, N/S, size 14, likes animals, nature, reading, TV, quiet life, seeks man 45-55, N/S for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 404447**

WIDOW young hearted 70's, N/S, likes reading, concerts, gardening, meals out, WLTM younger gentleman with similar interests. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 404177**

Men seeking women

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WOLFIE 42 Seeks Wendy for football matches and nights in/out. Luvs gym keeping fit, seeking a nice girl for LTR. **Text Only Mailbox Box No: 4245943**

SINGLE male, 31, 6ft brown eyes seeks lady with gsoh for fun and possible LTR. **Text Only Mailbox Box No: 4267855**

TOM 55, looking for female any age for a discreet fifty shades of grey friendship and fun. **Text Only Mailbox Box No: 4236310**

A loving caring guy 54, who likes most things in life, would love to meet slim lady 45 to 59 for romance. **Text Only Mailbox Box No: 4170816**

MALE 53, looking to meeting 60-65 lady for adult fun times. **Text Only Mailbox Box No: 4234583**

MALE 45, GSOH 6ft. Many interests, seeks slim outgoing lady, for love or friendship. **Text Only Mailbox Box No: 4283955**

DAVE 54, seeking female, 40-51 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409839**

JEFF 35, GSOH, likes cinema, swimming, ice skating, seeks special female with similar interests. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410737**

CHRIS 32, 5ft 10ins, brown hair, blue eyes, open minded, looking for female for discreet no strings fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410643**

BROADMINDED professional, tall, dark male, easy going, GSOH, seeking female with GSOH for fun, friendship and relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410703**

PAUL 68, 5ft 7ins, fit, genuine, enjoys most things, likes a laugh, seeking similar female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410655**

5FT 10ins male, brown hair, blue eyes, seeks female, 40 plus for daytime fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410589**

LOVING caring, considerate, romantic, passionate, Stoke area man, 52, OHAC, good looking, professional, seeks tactile, slim-medium build female for special occasions and exotic holidays. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407683**

LUCA 67, 5ft 3ins, seeking some one for fun and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410375**

JOSEPH attractive Asian male, seeking attractive, genuine female, 38-50 for friendship and companionship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410267**

SLIM attractive man, tired of lonely nights, seeks genuine lady for friendship and evenings out. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410261**

PETE 6ft 1ins, body builder, likes kick boxing, daughter, seeking female, 30-40 for love. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410245**

MALE 55, 5ft 10ins, seeks lady 30-58 for cosy nights in, holidays, nights out, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410207**

STEVE 40, 6ft, muscular, dark hair, half Italian, seeks busty, classy lady, 55 plus for discreet adult fun. Where is my Sophia Loren? **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410529**

ATTRACTIVE tall, dark, professional gent, easy going, GSOH, likes sport, socialising, company, seeking similar lady with GSOH. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410175**

MALE 47, would like loving, adult relationship, age/size unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410107**

DAN 36, down to earth, attractive, enjoy pubs, meals out, football, boxing, cinema, shopping, seeking special female. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410037**

GENUINE South Shropshire male, 45, 5ft 10ins, GSOH, likes walks, cycling, music, seeks lady of similar age for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409897**

NICK GSOH, looking for someone caring to share fun and frolics. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410001**

6FT male, medium build, brown eyes, dark hair, fit, likes walks, football, holidays, country drives, seeks nice bubbly lady with many interests. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409851**

PAUL 55, 6ft 2ins, intelligent, down to earth, kind, genuine, honest, seeks female, 50-60 for relationship, many hobbies. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409783**

MARK 6ft, blue eyes, slim, dark hair, honest, loving, caring, down to earth, likes sport, music, cinema, meals out, seeking special lady. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409803**

SINGLE white 40's male, looking for strictly no strings adult fun, any age/race/looks, genuine callers. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409613**

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LOCAL businessman, seeking special friend for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409585**

SAM seeking lovely lady for great times likes sports, good standard of living, looking for some fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409527**

ATTRACTIVE male, 48, 5ft 8ins, GSOH, loving, genuine, seeks attractive female, single mum welcome, ACA. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409471**

PETE 6ft 1ins, likes body building, kick boxing, seeks female for love and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409451**

MASON single parent, seeking female for no strings fun times, 30-45. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409443**

MALE likes nights out, holidays, seeking nice female for friendship, fun and maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409363**

GARY 40, tall, dark hair, seeks female, 30-50 for fun and LTR. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409207**

GENEROUS male, 6ft, GSOH, likes music, DIY, seeks attractive lady to spoil and pamper. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409019**

TONY 55, dark hair, 6ft, confident, outgoing, seeks mature, attractive female, 68 plus, genuine ad. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408989**

FUN loving male, 47, lots to give, looking for genuine lady for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409159**

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Villa now need to make it matter

Football

VILLA have won when it has mattered most under Paul Lambert. Sunday's visit of Norwich now falls into that category.

A relegation battle beckons for half of the Premier League as the claret and blues face another nervy run-in.

Just three wins in their last 17 games in all competitions – including FA Cup embarrassment to Sheffield United – tells its own story. The performances have been poor and the results worse and fans are not blind to any claims to the contrary.

With the foundations laid in 18-months under Paul Lambert it is now where progress needs to be seen.

Villa are treading water as their performances belie the work which has gone on behind the scenes to try to revive the club. It takes time but there have been little short-term benefits.

Yet Villa will survive as they come to the crunch. It will be closer than they will like but while they are unlikely to escape the drop battle completely they will stay up.

It is hard to make a case for a side who have been so inconsistent, Sunday's 1-0 defeat at Newcastle highlights Villa's struggles.

But they can produce on any given day. Lambert can rally his troops. Players at former clubs were willing to go through brick walls for him. While his skills handling Darren Bent and the rest of the Bomb Square are debateable there is no doubt that if you are on his side you will follow him.

He has the players, Gabby Agbonlahor, Christian Benteke, Fabian Delph, Ron Vlaar and Brad Guzan would walk into any team in Villa's situation.

And now his players need to perform. Ten points separate the bottom half with Villa sandwiched in the middle in 13th – five places higher than they were this time last season.

In February 2013 the claret and blues were in the bottom three, just weeks after those hammerings against Chelsea and Tottenham, and survived.

Wins over West Ham, QPR, Sunderland and Reading came when desperately needed. And victory on Sunday will prove the platform to avoid a late scramble, edge them over 30 points and put Villa three wins from safety.

The irony, though, would not be lost on Paul Lambert should the Canaries come to Villa Park and win. The team he left in 2012 to move Villa forward could leap above the claret and blues and deliver a hammer blow to their survival chances.

Norwich boss Chris Hughton is under more pressure than Lambert – with the club's chief executive David McNally publically admitting the Canaries were scouting new managers.

Vydra is looking for Anichebe team-up

ALBION striker Matej Vydra has asked for a first-team chance alongside Victor Anichebe as the Baggies searched for a partnership to avoid relegation.

Vydra netted his second goal for the club to rescue a point from a 1-1 draw with Fulham on Saturday with both he and Anichebe making an impact as substitutes. And the Czech Republic man is now eyeing the chance to link up with Anichebe more often after Thievy Bifouma and Saido Berahino laboured as the Baggies' starting front two at the weekend.

"If me and Victor play together that is better for me because he is strong and I am quick," said Vydra, whose equaliser was awarded with the help of Hawk-Eye goalline technology.

"It is good for me but it the coach's call. For me it is always better if I play with a strong striker. The goal was a big moment for me. I went on the pitch and it was important to score a goal."

Vydra saw his 86th minute shot fumbled in by the Fulham keeper.

We won't go down, says Mel

PEPE MEL has pledged Albion will not go down as he set the Baggies a minimum target of four wins to save their Premier League skins.

Mel claimed the Baggies' six-day training camp in his native Spain has helped lay down 'new rules' for the vital dozen games ahead.

"I don't think West Brom will be relegated – never," said a bullish Mel. "It's not possible. I am sure. West Brom, next season, will be playing in the Premier League.

"But for me, the more important thing is that the players think that too. I am the coach, I don't play. It's about the players.

"I agree with Chris Brunt that we need to win four or five matches. The next match is a big match for us."

The Baggies returned recently from Spain and the head coach claimed the trip helped him lay the ground rules for the rest of the season on and off the training field.

Tipton snatch chances to seal win over Wulfs

AFC Wulfrunians 1 Tipton 3

TIPTON Town took all but one of the chances that came their way to see their hostsAFC Wulfrunians slip to defeat.

Lee Wherton, Marvin Nisbett and Ben Hadley got on the scoresheet for Tipton with Brad Lawley providing the goal that almost sparked a late Wulfs comeback.

Football

Wulfrunians started the game strongly; predominantly due to Scott Stevenson's excellent deliveries from corners. He repeatedly put the ball around the Tipton goal and saw one delivery scrambled off the line.

Jake Webb provided the brightest spark for Wulfs in the first half, he was unlucky not to score as he dribbled past four players, only for his final touch to be too heavy and run through to James Pemberton.

Ash Burd and Dave Asbury both had excellent chances to put the home side in front seven minutes before half-time. Burd's flick with the outside of his foot was excellently tipped over by Pemberton and, from the resulting corner, Asbury smashed a header onto the post.

Six minutes before the break, Wherton put the visitors in front. Asbury had headed a cross out from the box and the midfielder took it down well with his chest before firing an effort which rolled past the outstretched fingertips of Danny Tipton.

Their lead was doubled after 49 minutes, Mensah Kinch threaded Nisbett in behind the defence and he coolly slid the ball under Tipton.

If it wasn't for Tipton, however, the lead could have been even greater. Jordan Archer's powerful header was only just pushed on to the post because of the fantastic reflexes of the keeper.

The visitors' final goal came as the result of an extremely quick break after Webb had a very strong claim for a penalty turned down. Within seconds, Hadley had broken down the left-hand-side and dribbled past two players before slotting the ball into the corner.

It was a combination of two substitutes that led to Wulfs pulling a goal back with 17 minutes remaining. Webb's cross was headed across goal by Mike Robertson and Lawley stretched to beat the keeper to the ball and poke it in.

Lawley had Wulfs' only other chance as he saw his powerful free kick turned away but the visitors held on for victory.

Albion squad take the all the points in local derby

Becky Hall who was making her first league appearance for Wolves after coming back from injury

Wolves Women 0
Sporting Club Albion 2

ALBION beat Wolves in the Black Country derby where Wanderer Becky Hall made her first league appearance of the season after injury. She had the first attempt of the game with an audacious overhead kick, but couldn't get a good enough connection as Albion breathed a sigh of relief.

Wolves were the better side for most of the first half, but went behind in added time when Robyn James poked in from close range after a cross wasn't cleared.

Wolves pushed for an equaliser but were let down by the quality of their final ball time and again.

Eventually Wolves were punished for their lack of cutting edge, as James sealed the game for Albion with two minutes to go, as she thundered an effort past Natalie Hall.

No panic button yet, says Lambert

BOSS Paul Lambert has refused to hit the panic button after Villa's suffered last-gasp heartbreak at Newcastle.

Loic Remy struck in injury-time to condemn Villa to a 1-0 defeat at St James' Park on Sunday and intensify their relegation fears.

Villa are four points above the Premier League drop zone in 13th and host Lambert's former club Norwich on Sunday.

Ten points separate the bottom half and Lambert insisted he will remain cool under pressure despite just three wins in 17 games.

"We don't panic. We just try to win the next game," he said. "It's not changed my view from a couple of months ago.We are playing well, we are just not getting the breaks.

"If you are playing games and getting beaten heavily then you worry about it. I don't have that worry. There are a lot of teams below us. We went through this last year so we know what it's like."

Lambert is hopeful Vila's battle against the drop last term will aid them this term. They were in the bottom three this time last year before finishing 15th.

Olsson's warning on targets

DEFENDER Jonas Olsson has warned Albion that target-setting could distract them from their survival mission.

The Sweden international insists the Baggies must focus only on their next match against Manchester United – or risk derailing their bid to avoid a drop.

Boss Pepe Mel and captain Chris Brunt claimed last week that the Baggies need at least four wins from their remaining games to stay in the top flight. But Olsson said: "We want to be safe as soon as possible and if you look at it like that you approach games differently. If you're targeting four wins you maybe go into a game thinking 'we need to win this one' you go for it and you open up and you end up losing the game.

"We just need to concentrate on our bit and hopefully we won't be depending on other results.".."

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Clark salutes another victory

LEE CLARK was left to salute another superb away victory for his Birmingham side after a 2-1 victory at Blackpool.

Blues climbed to 16th and have seven league victories on the road and counting this season.

"It was even more important when I see other results in the Championship," said the boss. "Other teams behind us have won. So it's huge for us. We're still really aware of what's going on behind us. We're not ignorant or arrogant to think that's us done and dusted."

The second-half introduction of striker Nikola Zigic and new arrival Jordon Ibe, recruited on loan from Liverpool, made a huge difference for the Blues, who won with two Lee Novak goals.

Clark is excited about the potential of Ibe.

"Not bad is he? Not bad. Power, pace," Clark said.

"We've done unbelievable to get him, I've got to thank (Liverpool manager) Brendan Rodgers. I've pestered him to get him. There were so many other clubs in for him.

"So hopefully this reputation I've got where I can do not-too-bad things with these big clubs' young players is helping us get the edge over some of my rivals, in terms of trying to help them on in their development. I'm so excited by him."

Whittaker has sights on title

BENJAMIN WHITTAKER is a fight away from a second straight national title after victory in the semi-finals of the England Youth Championships.

The Wodensborough Boxing Club combatant and National Ambition champion has been in imperious form over the tournament so far and was again on Sunday.

The promising 16-year-old recorded a fifth straight unanimous points win at 69kg in Class A - for boxers born in 1997 - Bridlington's Zak Stabler the latest to fall victim.

Whittaker pinned down a strong opponent as he tried to bob and weave out of danger and primed him for combinations from the jab, forcing Stabler onto the back foot. Meanwhile James Beech, from Pleck BC, was stopped on his feet against multi-time national champion Issac Milburn.

Crunch talks on the cards for Baggies' boss

Football

PEPE MEL will hold crunch talks with his Albion squad this week after players raised concerns over his Baggies blueprint.

Mel is battling to win over Albion's players as he prepares for a vital 10 days that could make or break the club's Premier League future.

Senior squad members are understood to have raised concerns at Mel's methods as the Spaniard searches for his first win as Hawthorns head coach. And that has led to a series of meetings, which will be held at the club's training ground this week involving players and staff, during which a new 'battle plan' will be drawn up for the final 11 games of the season.

Mel now faces a crucial week-and-a-half ahead of the Baggies return to action against Manchester United on March 8, during which the 50-year-old must convince sceptical stars that his approach can halt their slide towards relegation.

The players' worries, which have been confirmed by several sources close to the Albion dressing room, concern Mel's inability to communicate tactics and his style of play.

The former Real Betis coach arrived at The Hawthorns promising a high-pressing approach based on his experiences in Spain but he has already compromised following a meeting with players, who were concerned that the Baggies squad was ill-suited to the new approach.

But it's thought the worries resurfaced during last week's six-day training camp in Spain, from which the squad returned early.

The Hawthorns hierarchy have now become aware of the players' unhappiness and that has led to this week's meetings being scheduled.

One source said: "In training, the players are doing things and they don't know whether they are doing them right or wrong. Pepe has Keith Downing there with him and if there's a problem he should be putting across what he wants to Keith, so he can relay that to the players. But that isn't always happening." It is understood the players have taken to Mel on a personal level but remain unconvinced that his preferred style of play is conducive to the current squad or to the demands of a Premier League relegation battle.

His limited English is also a source of worry despite the recent arrival of former Betis coach David Gomez.

SAME OLD STORY FOR ALBION SIDE

Albion 1 Fulham 1

THE fourth 1-1 draw in Pepe Mel's four home games as Albion coach was an all-too-familiar outcome on a day that dished up some some all-too-familiar traits.

The news from elsewhere cushioned the blow of another two dropped points for the Baggies as Cardiff's implosion gathered pace, Sunderland's revival suffered a serious setback and Crystal Palace had the wind taken from their sails.

And even the Baggies' own late equaliser was worth more than just a point as it prevented Felix Magath's planned Fulham revolution from gaining instant traction.

But as another home game came and went with only a solitary point to show for it, the sense of another opportunity missed was impossible to ignore.

Disaster

Once more the Baggies' performance was not a disaster. But once more it was not good enough.

Such has been the nature of a depressing season that threatens to end with Mel and Co drifting to relegation with minimal fireworks but serious implications. Should a troubled campaign end badly, Albion will not have plummeted to relegation, they will have limped there.

Only once have they been beaten by more than two goals and that came at the hands of an unplayable Luis Suarez at Anfield.

Football

And their barely believable tally of 13 draws from 27 matches shows a team with enough talent and character to compete with the majority of Premier League opponents but lacking the crucial ability to prevail in the key moments of matches or capitalise on winning opportunities.

In any case, the steady nature of the decline will not make the fall any less painful should Mel fail to turn things around.

Once more on Saturday fans saw glimpses of the kind of side Mel hopes to create, with occasional displays of pressing and high-tempo passing.

But all too often the old failings returned and, had the Cottagers not displayed nerves of their own under new boss Felix Magath, they might well have been out of sight before the latest second-half improvement saw Mel's men claim the draw they ultimately deserved.

Ashkan Dejagah pounced on a Kieran Richardson cross to punish some poor Baggies defending and make it 1-0 to Magath's men on 28 minutes.

Anichebe's arrival sparked a Baggies improvement.

Saido Berahino of West Bromwich Albion being chased down by Sascha Riether of Fulham

Football leagues to join up

TWO of the Midlands' biggest football leagues are to merge this summer when the Alliance joins forces with the Combination at the end of the season.

They will form the new Midland League for the 2014-15 campaign, with Alliance clubs placed in the Premier Division of a four-tier pyramid.

Combination sides, currently one of the main feeder leagues to the Alliance, will entirely make up a Midlands League Division One, Two and Three.

The Combination and Alliance will combine under a single board with the four divisions covering steps five, six and seven of the non-league pyramid.

Mick Joiner, chairman of the Midland Alliance, said: "I am pleased that the FA has helped us and that we have finally been able to get this done.

"No club from any of the feeder leagues will be disadvantaged. That was one of the conditions of our agreement with the FA."

Clubs from the Alliance's other feeder leagues, the West and East Midlands Leagues, will not be disadvantaged. Promoted sides will go into the top tier.

Saddlers rematch tickets sell out

WOLVES fans have again showed their commitment to the cause after the club announced their allocation for next month's derby at Walsall is already sold out.

The last of the 3,400 available tickets for the game at the Banks's Stadium on March 8 were snapped up last week. Walsallwon the first league meeting between the sides 1-0.

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